Government of Saskatchewan

Annual Report 2004-05

Saskatchewan Environment

Saskatchewan Centennial 2005

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This document can be found online at: www.se.gov.sk.ca

Letters of Transmittal

July 2005
Her Honour the Honourable Dr. Lynda M. Haverstock
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan
Province of Saskatchewan

May It Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of Saskatchewan Environment for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

David Forbes
Minister of Environment

July 2005
The Honourable David Forbes
Minister of Environment

Dear Sir:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of Saskatchewan Environment for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Saskatchewan Environment made progress in reorienting the organization during 2004-05. Although this process has been difficult at times, the department accomplished several important steps toward the new direction articulated in our 2004-05 Performance Plan.

The department focused on three strategic areas: responding to 2004-05 budget targets, improving management accountability, and beginning to position the department to undertake the strategic shifts needed to address emerging environmental management challenges.

To meet budget targets Saskatchewan Environment reduced its workforce by 137 full-time-equivalent positions. The department focused considerable attention over 2004-05 adapting to implement our strategic plan with fewer resources.

Saskatchewan Environment took a wide range of actions to improve accountability during 2004-05. The department fundamentally restructured the organization, which included dismantling the regional reporting structure and replacing it with a direct line-of-site reporting structure, reducing the senior management team by one-third and consolidating financial processing from 16 to four sites. The department also revised its performance management system and introduced a new delegation of management authority to improve accountability.

Over the year, Saskatchewan Environment has been working closely with the Office of the Provincial Auditor to address an occurrence of misappropriated public funds (by one of our employees). The department's internal audit team has been assisting the RCMP on this matter and subsequently strengthened a number of internal controls to prevent a reoccurrence. Saskatchewan Environment and I, as Deputy Minister, deeply regret this breach of public trust.

The department is also pursuing new strategies in a number of program areas to better position itself to address emerging environmental issues. Saskatchewan Environment is leading development of a new government-wide Green Strategy, consistent with the province's commitment to a Green and Prosperous Economy. As part of this process, the department held informal consultations with approximately 75 key stakeholder organizations. The Green Strategy will place greater emphasis on integrating environmental and economic considerations, implementing best practices and promoting shared responsibility for environmental stewardship.

The department also implemented a more selective approach to fighting wild land fires. The new approach, which continues to prioritize fire suppression where there are risks to human safety, communities or the commercial forest, is providing environmental benefits from forest renewal, as well as reducing costs. Progress was also made toward adopting a risk-based approach to compliance. A thorough risk assessment of compliance issues was completed to help prioritize department efforts, and we initiated a benchmarking study of current compliance activities. Together, this work will provide improved focus and continuous improvement to our compliance and enforcement efforts.

In closing, I want to recognize and extend my appreciation to staff for their continued professionalism and dedication to resource and environmental management through a challenging period. Many thanks also to stakeholders and members of the public who have maintained their confidence in the department. We will continue our efforts to improve department accountability and rebuild public trust and confidence.

We expect 2005-06 to be a period of relative stability that will allow us to consolidate the changes still underway and to focus on refining a new vision for management of the province's environment and natural resources.

Respectfully submitted,

Lily Stonehouse
Deputy Minister

Introduction

Saskatchewan is blessed with an abundance of natural resources and a clean and healthy environment. However, there are increasing pressures on our environment from the cumulative impact of human actions. Our province's current and long-term prosperity depends on the proper protection, development and management of our environment and natural resources.

This year's Annual Report outlines Saskatchewan Environment's progress, results and performance measures over the April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005 period. The 2004-05 Annual Report serves two functions:

- Reports on results achieved against key actions and performance measures that were described in Saskatchewan Environment's 2004-05 Performance Plan, available at: www.se.gov.sk.ca/corporate/2005-06PerformancePlan.pdf. This plan was released in March 2004; and

- Sets out the results achieved against key actions included in the government-wide performance plan for 2004-05, which was released with the 2004-05 budget, available at www.gov.sk.ca/finance/budget.

Enhancements to this year's report include reporting on staff numbers (full-time equivalent positions, or FTEs), fuller description of progress against key actions from the 2004-05 Performance Plan, an improved description of the organization in the Who We Are section, improved consistency to the descriptions of each objective, and a more detailed explanation of performance measures. Improvements in the annual report are tied to continued implementation of the government's Accountability Framework. Reporting actual results, both financial and performance, as compared to the plan released earlier in the year, is a cornerstone of our accountability to the public.

Who We Are

Mandate - The mandate of Saskatchewan Environment is to protect and manage Saskatchewan's environmental and natural resources to maintain a high level of environmental quality, ensure sustainable development, and provide economic and social benefits for present and future generations.

Vision - Saskatchewan Environment's vision is "A high quality environment and healthy ecosystems in perpetuity which sustain social, health and economic well-being for Saskatchewan citizens."

Key Programs and Services - The department works to fulfill this mandate by promoting stewardship of the air, land, water, and wild plants and animals throughout the province. Key responsibilities in relation to natural resources include forest management, forest fire suppression, parks, Crown land, and fish and wildlife management. Saskatchewan Environment also has management responsibilities to prevent pollution of provincial air, water and land, which it delivers through activities such as coordinating the environmental assessment process, air quality monitoring, water quality management and activities to control potential impacts of contaminated sites, hazardous goods, landfills and other similar sources of pollution.

Saskatchewan Environment recognizes that effective environmental stewardship requires shared responsibility for the decisions made and actions needed among stakeholders and the public. Saskatchewan Environment uses processes of co-management, partnership, public involvement, communications and education to build understanding among individuals and organizations of environmental challenges and to ensure that decisions needed are understood and well-informed by a wide range of community, economic and individual concerns.

Some of the legislation administered by Saskatchewan Environment that comprises the major tools for ensuring sustainable development and effective pollution prevention and resource management throughout the province include: *The Environmental Assessment Act, The Environmental Management and Protection Act, The Forest Resources Management Act, The Prairie and Forest Fires Act, The Wildlife Act, The Fisheries Act (Saskatchewan), 1994,* and *The Provincial Lands Act.*

Department Organization - In 2004-05 Saskatchewan Environment undertook a fundamental transformation in its organizational structure to improve management accountability and department integration, as well as to position the department to undertake the strategic shifts needed to address emerging environmental management challenges. The EcoRegion reporting structure was replaced with a direct-line reporting structure meant to improve responsiveness and public accountability and benefit the management of our environment and natural resources over the long term.

Program management and delivery are provided by the Compliance, Fire and Forest and the Resource and Environmental Stewardship divisions. Each has a provincial mandate. The Compliance, Fire and Forest Division is responsible for field and compliance services, fire management and forest ecosystems. The Resource and Environmental Stewardship Division is responsible for environmental protection, Crown lands, parks, and fish and wildlife resource management.

The Planning and Risk Analysis Division is responsible for key corporate strategic services, including Green Strategy development; environmental assessment; strategic environmental studies, including the Great Sand Hills study; risk analysis; corporate evaluation; strategic planning; policy and legislative services; and intergovernmental and Aboriginal affairs.

Corporate Services Division provides strategic and operational support for financial, human resources, property and information management services, as well as general administration with central government agencies.

Communications Branch delivers strategic communications and encourages information exchange, increased participation in department programs, public input into policy and program development and co-ordinates communications with other government departments.

The department maintained 52 field offices strategically located in communities throughout the province and delivered a broad range of programs with 1,257.9 full-time equivalent positions for the 2004-05 fiscal year.

Key Partners - Goal 1 of the plan "Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems" is in part dependent on the success of recycling programs offered by SARCAN, (www.sarcsarcan.ca) a major recipient of third party funding from the department, and independent industry-created organizations like the Saskatchewan Scrap Tire Corporation (www.scraptire.sk.ca) and Saskatchewan Association of Resource Recovery Corporation (www.usedoilrecycling.com). Saskatchewan Environment administers the legislation governing these organizations, but has no direct influence over their performance of recycling activities.

The urban park authorities receive funding from Saskatchewan Environment and they independently operate their respective parks. Saskatchewan Environment also funds Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association and Saskatchewan Watershed Authority.

The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority is now responsible for protecting, conserving and managing the surface and groundwater resources of the province. The Deputy Minister of Saskatchewan Environment is the Chair of the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority Board of Directors. Saskatchewan Environment and Saskatchewan Watershed Authority work closely with other partners to ensure the safety and quality of water sources in the province.

Benefits - The quality of the environment, the strength of the economy and the health of Saskatchewan people are dependent on each other. Saskatchewan Environment works to protect and manage our province's natural environment and its contribution to the standard of living and quality of life of Saskatchewan's residents.

- Health - clean water to drink, clean air to breath and clean land to support us are the building blocks to healthy societies.

- Ecosystem - healthy ecosystems provide a multitude of ecological benefits to humans including water purification, flood control, soil fertility, pollination, seed dispersal and others.

- Society - The health and beauty of Saskatchewan's natural environment contribute to our physical and mental well-being. Our province's history and economy are intimately linked to the land and nature.

- Economy - renewable resources (forestry, wildlife, fisheries, etc.) provide employment to thousands of Saskatchewan citizens and contribute more than a billion dollars a year to our economy.

    - Forestry initiatives in northern Saskatchewan create thousands of jobs. Despite the current softwood lumber dispute strong lumber prices have kept the forest industry competitive. The industry remains a major employer and there is continued potential for expansion in Saskatchewan.

    - Approximately 66 per cent of the firms in Saskatchewan's environmental industry (recycling, consulting, conservation, manufacturing) have increased sales in the past two years and are positioned for growth in the future, according to the *Report on the Environmental Technology Sector in Western Canada* (November 2003).

- Tourists to provincial parks spend over $129 million annually leading the creation of over 1,000 full time equivalency jobs and an impact of over $35 million to the Gross Domestic Product. Many rural communities rely on parks as a market for their local businesses and for employment opportunities.

- Saskatchewan Environment directly generated $66.1 million in revenue from a variety of sources, such as fishing and hunting licence sales, forestry permits and dues, land sales and leases, etc. Of those revenues $50.4 million is directed to the General Revenue Fund and $15.7 million is directed to other funds: provincial parks Commercial Revolving Fund, Northern Revenue Sharing Trust Fund and Fish and Wildlife Development Fund.

- Our efforts also support sustainable development in the agricultural, mining, oil and gas, energy and manufacturing sectors, which contribute over $9 billion to the provincial economy.

2004-05 Results at a Glance

This section provides readers with a summary of Saskatchewan Environment's most significant performance results or areas requiring further attention. Results are presented in a concise manner. More detailed information will follow in the next section.

Summary of Performance Results

Goal 1: Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems

- Released Biodiversity Action Plan in June 2004.
- Completed and released State of the Environment Report April 1, 2005.
- Expansion of the Representative Areas Network included designating 36,585 hectares in the Great Sand Hills and 35,382 hectares in the Pasquia-Porcupine Hills under *The Ecological Reserves Act*, and regulating an additional 32,531 hectares of ecologically sensitive Crown land under *The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act*.
- Planted 1,813,192 trees on 1,467 hectares of not sufficiently restocked areas in Pasquia-Porcupine and an additional 1,762,480 trees on 857 hectares of department reforestation responsibilities.
- Announced provincial e-waste and paint recycling programs to be operational by spring 2006.
- Completed development and signing of Park Land Forest Trust Fund Agreement between Saskatchewan Environment and Saskatchewan Forest Centre.
- Released the third and final Abandoned Mines Assessment Report.
- Established an ambient air-monitoring site in the City of Prince Albert.
- Completed review and update of Saskatchewan's Surface Water Quality Objectives and developed storm water runoff management guidelines. Consultation planned for 2005-06.
- Completed a review of existing regional waste management systems, and secured a $700,000 grant for regional waste management authorities.
- Made no progress on developing department climate change indicators. This work will resume in 2005-06.
- No significant change reported in water and air quality.
- Increased or maintained rates of recycling in four of six recycling measures.

Goal 2: People, Resources and Property Values at Risk from Wildfires are Protected

- There were 324 fire starts, only 46 per cent of the long-term average, burning less than 1,000 hectares in the full response zone, a new record for the least amount of area burned in high value/high priority areas.
- Initial attack crews attacked 162 fires at a size of two hectares or less, containing 160 of these to less than 10 hectares, resulting in a 98.8 per cent effectiveness rate.
- Developed fire protection zones based on prioritization of values at risk, and developed guidelines outlining appropriate suppression strategies for each zone.
- Developed and delivered a communications strategy to inform the public of the advantages of the new fire suppression strategies and their responsibility to avoid or mitigate risk from fires and reduce human-caused fires.
- Researched options and announced Phase One of a $183 million program for the renewal of the fire-fighting aircraft fleet.
- Marked improvement was shown in fire containment in the full response zone.

Goal 3: Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources

- Established the Great Sand Hills Scientific Advisory Committee and regulations designating Great Sand Hills Protected Area under *The Ecological Reserves Act*.
- Signed MeeToos Forest Products Ltd. Term Supply Licence February 4, 2005.
- Established Prince Albert's Urban Park, "Pêhonân Parkway", on March 2, 2005 as the fifth Saskatchewan urban park.
- Issued 196 forest products permits to small forest operators.
- Developed Centennial Park Passport Contest and other extensive promotions and marketing in preparation for Saskatchewan's Centennial year celebrations in provincial parks.
- Signed multi-year lease with new operator for Blackstrap Ski Hill in Blackstrap Provincial Park.
- Continued to develop a changed circumstance proposal to address the softwood lumber trade dispute with United States. Progress delayed by litigation.
- Increased number of hectares dedicated to Integrated Land Use Planning and Representative Areas Network by 205,000 and 210,000 hectares respectively.
- Park visitation and the public's satisfaction with their park visit dropped (reflecting cool, wet weather through the summer of 2004).

Goal 4: Shared Environmental Stewardship

- Coordinated review of 28 Treaty Land Entitlement selection requests involving 4,596 hectares of Crown and private land.
- Began operation of the newly formed Specialized Enforcement Unit and conducted a number of successful investigations.
- Prepared, produced and distributed to Métis communities "A Guide to Métis Hunting and Fishing Rights in Saskatchewan".
- Made limited progress in developing an agreement with the northern Métis community and Métis Nation of Saskatchewan for community-based management of subsistence resource harvests.
- Maintained a consistent number of relationships relative to last year with First Nations and Métis groups.

Summary of Financial Results

The 2004-05 approved appropriation was $161.6 million. Total 2004-05 expenditures were $133.1 million, a variance of $28.5 million for the department's revised estimates. This variance is mainly due to the low forest fire activity.

The department's forecast revenue was $45.399 million for 2004-05. Actual revenue recorded by the department was $50.361 million. This increased revenue from the initial forecast is mainly due to environmental handling charges, forestry fees and dues, and fishing and hunting licence sales.

In 2004-05, Saskatchewan Environment's full-time equivalent (FTE) budget was 1,230.2. As a result of very low fire activity in 2004-05, the department's utilization declined to 1,208.0 FTEs.

Saskatchewan Environment is responsible for three funds: Fish and Wildlife Development Fund, Commercial Revolving Fund and Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund. Explanations and financial statements of these funds are found on pages 36-43.

The discovery of financial irregularities in the department in December 2004 resulted in an extensive internal audit, reviewed by the Provincial Auditor, an employee being terminated, and an ongoing RCMP investigation. The following excerpt is part of the report by Saskatchewan Environment Deputy Minister Lily Stonehouse to Public Accounts Committee:

"As I reported during our last visit with Public Accounts Committee, the work to improve Saskatchewan Environment's accountability and performance began back in 2003. At that time we recognized that the old structure of branches reporting independently from regions with signing authorities delegated deep into the organization did not adequately meet the tests for accountability and efficiency, so change was planned and initiated. The department was restructured, reducing our senior management team by one-third, and a revised delegation of signing authority was implemented. This improved accountability structure and the diligence of an employee resulted in the discovery of financial irregularities that has brought us to this point.

"There is no greater obligation for a government than to honour the public trust by being accountable and diligent in the delivery of public services. The public rightly expects all government employees to approach their work with honesty and integrity. When any of us fails to live up to that standard, it is a source of shame and demoralization for the civil service. Both the service itself and the public are owed a detailed explanation of what went wrong, as well as quick action to correct any systemic failings that allowed misappropriation of public funds to occur.... All of the details in this matter will not be known until the RCMP are finished their work and the issue of potential charges is dealt with.

"However we have at least part of the picture. We know that there have been a total of 556 suspicious payments made between 1998 and 2004. All of these payments related to approved invoices. Although we need further information from the RCMP investigation to confirm whether all of these payments were inappropriate, we know the maximum loss of public money is just over $511,000 and we know the majority of these suspicious payments were made through the special cheque handling process that returned cheques to the department for distribution." [1]

Saskatchewan Environment has subsequently strengthened a number of internal controls to prevent a reoccurrence. These improvements respond to the five recommendations made by the Provincial Auditor and were reported to Public Accounts Committee by Saskatchewan Environment Deputy Minister Lily Stonehouse:

[1] Hansard Verbatim Report No.23 – June 20, 2005

"The first one, with respect to the recommendation that the department '...properly segregate the duties of the employees responsible for collection, receipt, disbursement, or expenditure of public money,' the Provincial Auditor reports the department implemented a new and significantly improved delegated signing authority in June 2004. This revised delegation of signing authority resulted in segregating approval for payments from those who initiate payments. This delegated signing authority will be reviewed annually, something we did in April of this year. Additional work has been done and will continue to be done throughout the department to train staff and managers on the delegated signing authority and the importance of complying with it.

"The second recommendation was that '...the Department of Environment clearly communicate to its employees its operating policies and ensure that its employees understand the reasons for the policies.' The department initiated training for employees this April. The training focused on financial operating processes and procedures as well as the delegated signing authority standards within the department. The department will continue to deliver this training to ensure all employees are included and will also deliver additional training for managers. Managers are also regularly briefed on existing and new controls to ensure compliance with policies in operating procedures regarding financial management.

"We have acted quickly to address the auditor's third recommendation regarding training our employees '...to help establish a culture of fraud awareness.' The department delivered fraud awareness and internal control training in January 2005 to the senior management group which is all ...department branch heads. And the entire finance and administration branch was also trained. This fraud awareness and internal control training was also provided to the parks branch in April 2005 and will be delivered to all branches during the remainder of 2005-06.

"Regarding the auditor's recommendation that '...the Department of Environment assess if the government's standard blanket fidelity bond [or] (insurance) coverage reduces its risks of loss to an acceptable level,' the department will be working with Finance and the Public Service Commission to assess the government's standard blanket fidelity bond coverage in light of the risk of financial loss within the department.

"With respect to the recommendation that the department '...assess the risk of loss of public money by employees in positions of trust...and reduce the risk to an acceptable level...' the department will continue assessing the risk of loss of public money by employees in positions of trust. We've already been implementing policies and procedures to reduce this risk to an acceptable level. For example we've reviewed all functions on the financial systems and have removed all instances where one employee can initiate purchases and approve transactions for payments. We will be guided by the work of the Public Service Commission respecting more comprehensive criminal record checks.

"Beginning with my appointment in 2003, I have led a comprehensive change management effort to strengthen accountability in the department – accountability for performance as well as financial management. It takes time and continued diligence to change an organizational culture. I am pleased with the progress we have made.

"Although as the auditor notes it is not possible to construct a foolproof system of financial controls, as an organization entrusted with public money we are required to do everything we can to ensure all of the measures that can be taken are taken in order to regain and maintain the public's trust.

"That work will continue until I am satisfied that we've done everything we can to strengthen our internal controls, to improve our management oversight, and to establish an accountable culture. The public expects it and it will be done."[2]

[2] Hansard Verbatim Report No.23 – June 20, 2005

2004-05 Performance Results

This section provides readers with detailed information on progress that Saskatchewan Environment has made on the performance measures and key actions in the department's 2004-05 Performance Plan (www.se.gov.sk.ca/corporate). The key actions originally presented in our 2004-05 plan are listed below, followed by a report on actual progress for each. Actual results information is included for all key actions and performance measures that were published in our 2004-05 Performance Plan, as well as for all commitments related to Saskatchewan Environment in the government-wide Performance Plan Summary. Further information about Saskatchewan Environment's performance measures is available in our 2004-05 Performance Plan.

Annual performance information is used to assess overall progress towards goals and objectives each year, and in turn, to inform/adjust future plans and actions. For example, because little progress could be made to resolve the softwood lumber issues due to litigation delays, efforts focussed on assisting small forest companies to develop value-added businesses.

Goal 1 - Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems

Objective 1 – Reduce Impacts to Surface and Groundwater Quality

Good quality surface and groundwater is essential for a wide range of human and other uses. To maintain the quality of Saskatchewan surface and groundwater from the wide range of potential impacts to water quality, the province has programs to: set water quality standards and guidelines for both surface and groundwater, promote pollution prevention and safe use, respond to specific risks and threats, regulate water and sewage discharges from large point sources (such as municipalities and industrial users) and ensure that water quality is monitored and assessed.

Good progress was made on drinking water initiatives during 2004-05. In addition to the key actions reported here, progress on further drinking water initiatives is reported through the government-wide *Safe Drinking Water Strategy* which is available on our website www.se.gov.sk.ca. Saskatchewan Environment leads implementation of this plan, which involves several government departments and agencies, and publicly reports on its implementation.

The province created the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority to develop new approaches to address water protection. The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority is working with various stakeholders to help develop public stewardship programs for many of the province's watersheds. Saskatchewan Watershed Authority issues its own annual report, which may be viewed at: www.swa.ca/publications.

Key Results

- Monitor surface water quality at primary monitoring sites and provide the Saskatchewan public with information on ground and surface water quality.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Public were provided information on sewage releases from both Edmonton and Cold Lake.
  - Water quality sampling at 11 lakes in northwest Saskatchewan was carried out to monitor acid deposition.

- Apply the Water Quality Index to three additional watersheds.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Collected samples on the Churchill, Beaver and Assiniboine Rivers.

- Review and update Saskatchewan's surface water quality objectives.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Review conducted. Consultation for Surface Water Quality Objectives and final report planned for 2005-06.

- See Safe Drinking Water Strategy for further actions related to safe drinking water.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - *Saskatchewan's Safe Drinking Water Strategy*, annual safe drinking water performance plans and annual reports are available on the Internet at www.se.gov.sk.ca/environment/protection/water/2005-06PerformancePlan-DrinkingWater.pdf and at www.SaskH2O.ca/news.asp. Additional information regarding Saskatchewan's water quality and quantity are published in the State of the Environment Report 2005 which may be viewed on website www.se.gov.sk.ca/ecosystem. Detailed information by community is available at www.SaskH2O.ca/MyDrinkingWater.asp. Saskatchewan Watershed Authority issues performance plans and annual reports, which may be viewed at www.swa.ca/publications.

Measurement Results

Water Quality Index (WQI) ratings for watersheds within the province

Water samples were collected for Qu'Appelle, South Saskatchewan, North Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan rivers. Restructuring of existing databases and transition to the new Saskatchewan Environment Environmental Management System database has resulted in an inability to calculate the WQI based on 2004-05 data. To resolve this difficulty an automated means of calculating the WQI is being developed in 2005-06.
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment Water Quality Index data files]

The WQI is an overall measure of the quality of water for specific uses, such as the protection of aquatic life, livestock watering, recreation, etc. The Index is a composite of different chemicals and organisms in the water at safe levels for a particular use. It is a good measure of the quality of surface or groundwater.

The department has little direct control over the results of this broad measure of water quality. Samples are collected by industries and municipalities in accordance with their permits, as well as by department staff and other agencies. The levels of chemicals and organisms in the samples are compared with established WQI levels for specific uses.

The issues of water quality and quantity are integrally linked. Conserving water not only helps to preserve water quality by leaving it in its natural cycle, but it also reduces the costs associated with municipal pumping and treatment. Overall the quality of surface and groundwater in Saskatchewan is good, however there are some areas where improvement is desirable and possible.

The assessment of all watersheds using the WQI is a long-term project. Saskatchewan Environment will be using the data collected from its primary monitoring stations on the major watersheds.

Objective 2 - Clean Air

Clean air is essential for humans and most other life forms. Due to the low provincial population and moderate level of industrial activity, the air quality in Saskatchewan is generally good. Conditions of smog are rare, but acid precipitation from industry in Alberta is a potential problem, especially for parts of northern Saskatchewan. Airborne particulates, such as blowing dust and smoke from forest or stubble fires, cause the most noticeable air pollution concern. Other more localized issues are associated with intensive livestock operations and small manufacturing and processing plant emissions. An air pollution index is used to monitor long-term trends in air quality. Saskatchewan Environment is responsible for administering *The Clean Air Act*, which regulates most major air quality emissions in the province.

There is also concern about the increasing levels of provincial greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Efforts are focused on reducing GHG emissions from electricity production, through greater use of green energy sources, such as wind and natural gas, and ethanol in

gasoline. Businesses and individuals are being encouraged to be more energy conscious and efficient.

Currently, established programs set standards and guidelines, monitor and assess air quality, promote pollution controls and reductions, respond to emerging risks and threats, and regulate emissions from large point sources, such as utilities, industrial sites and mining operations.

Future directions for the air quality program will include continued monitoring of urban air quality at major cities throughout the province, the initiation of rural air quality monitoring through the establishment of independent, multi-stakeholder airshed associations and increased assessment of the impacts of acid deposition as a result of increased activity from the Alberta Tar Sands area and emissions from the Calgary/Edmonton corridor. Efforts will also continue to implement recommendations of the 2004 Provincial Auditor's report.

Key Results

- Use long-range transport modelling to determine projected levels of acid deposition on sensitive ecosystems.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Compiled provincial northern lake data and provided to Acid Deposition Assessment Group.
  - Hired senior air quality scientist responsible for long-range transport modelling.

- Expand air quality monitoring to both Prince Albert and Swift Current.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Ambient air monitoring station in Prince Albert was established and began operation. Search continues for a location to establish an air monitoring station in Swift Current.

- Raise public awareness of impacts of vehicle idling on air pollution and climate change.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Provided support and education materials to Climate Change Saskatchewan.

Measurement Results

Per cent of time the rating from the Air Pollution Index was good to excellent in Regina and Saskatoon based on an annual average

Final data for 2004-05 shows that the air quality was good to excellent 98.4 per cent of the time in Regina and 98.7 per cent of the time in Saskatoon. This compares to a rating of good to excellent 98.2 per cent of the time for Regina and 99 per cent of the time for Saskatoon in 2003-04.
[Source: National Air Pollutant Surveillance Program data]

The Air Pollution Index is a measurement of a composite of chemicals and particulates in the air. Maintaining urban air quality is an important part of meeting this objective. The department has some ability to influence air quality through its regulatory programs.

Additional air quality information may be found online at: www.ec.gc.ca/cleanair-airpur/

Objective 3 - Clean Land

Clean land is essential for human health and safe production of food. A range of human activities affects the quality of land and soils. Most of the major land use issues have been identified and steps are being taken to address them: better agricultural and forest management practices are being adopted, contaminated and abandoned sites are being cleaned up, and the mining and petroleum industries are closely regulated to ensure they leave no long-term environmental effects.

Currently, established programs set standards and guidelines, monitor and assess soil quality and waste management practices, promote waste reduction and recycling initiatives, respond to risks and threats, and regulate disposal from large point sources, such as municipalities, utilities, large industrial emitters and mining operations.

Waste management strategies are being developed and implemented, such as regional landfills and a variety of recycling initiatives.

Key Results

- Continue encouraging regional waste management systems and focus enforcement efforts where there is significant risk of environmental contamination.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ $700,000 financial assistance package was developed and approved for regional waste management authorities.

- Continue clean-up of priority contaminated sites and continue to monitor uranium mine sites for public safety.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ The third and final report *An Assessment of Abandoned Mines in Northern Saskatchewan (Year 3)* was released.
  - ~ Work continued on clean-up of Woodland Campus, Prince Albert. Investigation identified additional impacted areas. Saskatchewan Environment will pursue responsible parties to undertake further remedial activities.
  - ~ All operating uranium mine and mill sites were inspected.

- Develop a provincial strategy for the management of municipal solid waste.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Draft discussion paper was developed and then revised incorporating the creation of a Multi-material Stewardship Program.

- Develop and implement an electronics recycling program for Saskatchewan.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Program was developed and announced for implementation in 2005-06.

- Develop and implement new paint recycling initiatives throughout the province.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Program was developed and announced for implementation in 2005-06.

Measurement Results

Per cent of scrap tires recycled

Saskatchewan Scrap Tire Corporation (SSTC) reached a 70 per cent collection rate (corrected for tires sold on new cars) in 2004-05. The per cent of scrap tires recycled increased 5 per cent from March 31, 2004. Saskatchewan Scrap Tire Corporation is currently collecting and recycling all scrap tires available for capture in the province. In addition, the program is making significant progress in processing the inventory of tires stored at processing facilities and at provincial landfill sites.
[Source: SSTC annual reports]

The number of scrap tires recycled is a waste minimization indicator. Scrap tires cause problems at landfills. They can be re-used to manufacture a number of commodities. The department administers the enabling regulations for this third-party stewardship program for the management of scrap tires. Market conditions determine the recycling rates.

Per cent of beverage containers recycled

Recovery rate for designated beverage containers was 87 per cent in 2004-05. The same rate was attained in 2003-04.
[Source: SARCAN annual reports]

Beverage container recycling is a waste minimization indicator. Beverage containers are a litter control challenge and a resource conservation opportunity. The department administers the enabling regulations for this third-party stewardship program. Market conditions determine the recycling rates.

Per cent of pesticide containers recycled

As of March 31, 2005, 66 per cent of pesticide containers were recycled as compared to 70 per cent in 2003-04.
[Source: Croplife Canada]

The number of pesticide containers recycled is a waste minimization indicator as well as an indicator of how well we are protecting our environment from potential chemical contamination. The department does not have direct regulatory control or influence of this voluntary, industry-based program now in place to manage pesticide containers. Market conditions determine the recycling rates.

Per cent of used oil recycled

As of March 31, 2005, the per cent of used oil recycled increased to 83 per cent from a rate of 79 per cent in 2003-04.
[Source: SARRC annual reports]

The volume of used oil recycled is a waste minimization indicator and an indicator of how well we are protecting the environment from waste dangerous goods. The department administers the enabling regulations for this third-party stewardship program. Market conditions determine the recycling rates.

Percent of oil filters recycled

In 2004-05 the recovery rate of used oil filters met the target level of 82 per cent.
[Source: SARRC annual reports]

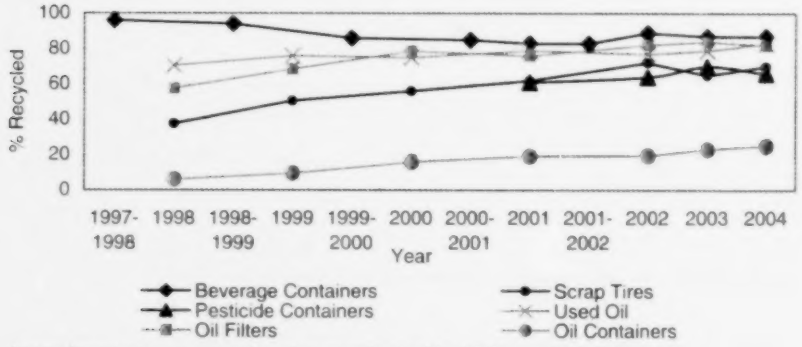
The number of oil filters recycled is a waste minimization indicator. The department administers the enabling regulations for this third-party stewardship program. Market conditions determine the recycling rates.

Per cent of used oil containers

As of March 31, 2005, 25 per cent of used oil containers were recycled, an increase from 23 per cent in 2003-04.
[Source: SARRC annual reports]

The number of used oil containers recycled is a waste minimization indicator. The department administers the enabling regulations for this third-party stewardship program. Market conditions determine the recycling rates.

Recycling Trends in Saskatchewan



* some figures are approximate based on an estimate of the total generated in the province

[Source: External third party organization annual reports]

For further information on recycling of these materials see:
www.scraptire.sk.ca
www.usedoilrecycling.com
www.se.gov.sk.ca/environment/recycle/

Saskatchewan has among the highest recycling rates in Canada. Over the long term, we aim to maintain our high levels of recycling and to increase the types of products recycled.

Per cent of mines with financial assurances in place

In 2004-05 the per cent of mines with financial assurances increased to 80 per cent from 71 per cent in 2003-04.
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment data and mine company annual reports]

Properly reclaimed mining sites impact the clean land objective directly by returning the site to its original natural state. Mining companies are required to have decommissioning plans and financial assurances in place to ensure that they do not place a burden on Saskatchewan taxpayers should they fail to meet their decommissioning and reclamation obligations. The department directly regulates the environmental aspects of mining operations. Saskatchewan Environment has direct control and influence over this measure.

Per cent of mines with decommissioning and reclamation plans in place

Per cent of mines with decommissioning and reclamation plans in place increased to 93 per cent, representing an increase of eight per cent above last year.
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment data and mine company annual reports]

Mines with decommissioning and reclamation plans represent mining companies that have put measures in place to ensure environmental protection at the end of the operation's life. The department directly regulates the environmental aspects of mining operations and therefore has a direct influence over the measurement.

Number of known high risk contaminated sites

The target for 2004-05 was to clean up the one remaining site at Woodland Campus, Prince Albert. Investigation has identified additional impacted areas associated with this site. Saskatchewan Environment's efforts will be to pursue responsible parties to undertake further remedial activities. This will occur throughout 2005-06 and likely into 2006-07 before final remediation occurs. A prioritized clean-up strategy will be developed in 2005-06 to address non-uranium contaminated sites identified in the three-part abandoned mines assessment report.
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment data]

Contaminated sites indicate the condition of our land resources. High risk contaminated sites are those that pose a health hazard to humans and to ecosystems due to the presence of dangerous chemicals in the ground. The department's involvement may stem from the direct regulation of industrial operations, response to spill events or directing clean-up of contaminated sites. Anticipated new standards for petroleum-related contaminants could impact the number of sites considered to be "polluted." The department has influence in the remedial aspects of new accidental contamination of land. The remediation of abandoned sites is dependent on co-operation of the involved parties and financial resources available.

Objective 4 - Healthy Ecosystems

Ecosystem-based management is an ecological approach that involves a holistic "systems" approach to managing resources. Biodiversity is a term used to refer to the variety of species and ecosystems and the ecological processes of which they are a part. Biodiversity is essential for preserving the health and diversity of living things that form the web of life on earth, including human life. Due to human activity, some ecosystems and specific fauna and flora within them are at risk or have been lost. It is important that human activities do not further reduce ecosystem health. The terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems that sustain biodiversity are essential for keeping our air, water and land safe and

healthy. Adopting an ecosystem-based approach to resource management and environmental protection is important to ensure ecosystem stewardship, sustainable use and restoration of ecosystems. Climate change is also an emerging threat to ecosystem health.

Key programming to maintain the health of the province's ecosystems include the development of ecosystem management policies, enhancement of scientific information and databases through monitoring and surveys, and resource stewardship programs and plans, such as the Biodiversity Action Plan, Representative Areas Network (RAN) and Species at Risk.

During 2004-05 the province made good progress in several important program areas, including expansion of the RAN, began implementation of the Biodiversity Action Plan, and creation of a new Integrated Monitoring Unit.

In the future the province will complete implementation of the Biodiversity Action Plan (2004-2009), strengthen its capacity in environmental monitoring and increase the per cent of land in the RAN from its present level of nine per cent to a total of 7.8 million hectares or 12 per cent of the province.

Key Results

- Establish an integrated ecosystem-based monitoring unit in the department.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Unit created and staffed.

- Co-ordinate the implementation strategy for the Biodiversity Action Plan.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Biodiversity Action Plan released to public in June 2004.
  - Progress on implementation of the Biodiversity Action Plan will be reported annually.

- Continue development and management of a system of protected areas that are representative of the province's terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Designated 36,585 hectares in the Great Sand Hills and 11 sites totalling 35,382 hectares in the Pasquia-Porcupine Hills under *The Ecological Reserves Act*. Other significant additions include 32,531 hectares of ecologically sensitive Crown land designated under *The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act*.

- Develop and implement partnership framework agreements with non-governmental conservation organizations for the acquisition and management of Fish and Wildlife Development Fund lands.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Established an Interdepartmental Working Group to work with conservation and agricultural organizations, and implemented partnership agreements with Ducks Unlimited, Nature Conservancy of Canada and Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation.

- Complete vegetation management plans and forest rejuvenation for provincial parklands to maintain ecological and cultural integrity while providing for public use for recreation and learning.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Completed review and identified options for a timber resource allocation process within parks.
  - Completed development and signing of Park Land Forest Trust Fund Agreement between Saskatchewan Environment and the Saskatchewan Forest Centre, which will be used for funding forest renewal in provincial parks.

- Address not sufficiently restocked (NSR) areas:
  - Inventory NSR areas to determine if forests have naturally restored themselves.
    [2004-05 Performance Plan]
    - Regeneration surveyed 1,000 hectares.

- Plant or tend 2,000 hectares of NSR areas to restore to natural levels. [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Site prepared 2,246 hectares, planted over 3.5 million trees, stand tended 2,763 hectares.

- Develop a department climate change impacts and adaptation strategy. [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Saskatchewan Environment participated in the Impacts and Adaptation Working Group with representation from the federal, provincial and territorial governments, developed the National Climate Change Adaptation Framework.

In addition to 2004-05 Performance Plan key results, Saskatchewan has been designated the lead in a National Action Plan on Chronic Wasting Disease. In 2004-05 the province coordinated the development of a governance structure, terms of reference for committees, draft policy framework document, draft action plans and prepared a draft budget which will all be advanced to Ministerial Council for approval in fall, 2005.

Measurement Results

Number of hectares in the Representative Areas Network

In 2004-05 additions to the RAN brought the total area in the program to 5.96 million hectares. This year's additions include 36,585 hectares in the Great Sand Hills, 11 sites totalling 35,382 hectares in the Pasquia-Porcupine Hills and 32,531 hectares of ecologically sensitive Crown land. Negotiations will continue to achieve the province's objective of 7.8 million hectares or 12 per cent of the province in the RAN. [Source: Saskatchewan Environment Representative Areas Network records]

Adequate amount and distribution of natural/native habitats under the RAN ensures that terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems persist into the future and serve as benchmarks against which we can monitor the effectiveness of environmental stewardship across the broader landscape.

Natural landscapes with representative fauna and flora unique to a given natural ecoregion are selected by the department for designation as a representative ecological site for inclusion in the RAN. All contributing lands are counted, including those of government and non-government partners. The RAN program is striving to ensure an adequate percentage of representation of each natural ecoregion of the province.

Saskatchewan Environment has direct influence over site designating and management of RAN. However, the need to consult with local interests may result in a slower rate of progress.

Goal 2 - People, Resources and Property Values at Risk from Wildfires are Protected

Objective 1 - Fire Suppression Targeted to Prioritized Values at Risk

The expanding uses of the forest, the increasing population of northern Saskatchewan, and the escalating costs of fire suppression are placing unprecedented challenges on the province's fire management program. In addition, focused attention on the ecological benefits of fire is changing the view that all fires must be suppressed. Allowing fires to burn creates a natural vegetation mosaic and maintains the diversity of wildlife habitats. Fires help remove the build-up of natural litter in the forest, reducing the risk of large, intense and costly fires. Fire also assists in moderating and sanitizing insect and disease infestations. The use of prescribed fires currently occurs in selected provincial parks as part of vegetation management. The challenge is to find the proper balance between fire suppression to protect values at risk and the management of fire to maintain healthy and diverse ecosystems. As predicted climate warming occurs, additional pressures for fire protection over the long-term can be expected.

During 2004-05 the province made good progress in implementing a new fire management strategy that seeks to manage risks where capital and operating expenditures are considerable. Protection strategies are reflective of the values being threatened and the potential beneficial aspects of each fire. Decisions balance the risk fire poses to all values, with the capability to provide protection in a given situation. Protection of human life and communities from wildfires is the top priority.

In the future, the province will monitor the results of implementation and refine the program as necessary. The province will also gradually improve its support requirements, including equipment, air tankers, observation towers and related infrastructure.

Key Results

- Develop zones for protection and prioritize them to reflect the values present within each zone and the wildfire threat and risk they are subjected to.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Developed and implemented.

- Develop guidelines outlining appropriate suppression strategies for the zones of protection.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Developed and implemented.

- Continue to focus on the highest value and highest risk areas for preparedness, initial attack and sustained action.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - A cool, wet summer in 2004 assisted in reducing risk of fire starts and rate of spread. Saskatchewan Environment has developed a five-point rating system of the degree of difficulty for burning conditions. The percentage of days with a level one rating (least difficult) was 63 per cent compared to the long-term average of 42 per cent. Only four per cent of days were considered to be level five (most difficult), compared to the long-term average of eight per cent.

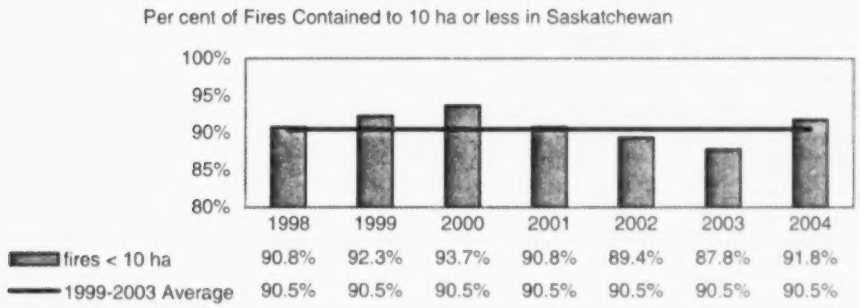
In addition to progress made on planned actions, other key results include a commitment to modernize the province's fire fighting fleet. Forty-two million dollars has been committed over the next four years for Phase One of aircraft replacement and infrastructure renewal (hangars, tarmacs, aprons and runways). The total renewal program will cost approximately $200 million over ten years.

Measurement Results

Per cent of fires in the full response zone contained to 10 hectares or less

For the 2004 fire season, 169 of the 184 fires in the full response zone were contained to a size of 10 hectares or less. This translates to a 91.8 per cent containment rate. This exceeds the long-term rate by 1.3 per cent.

The percentage of contained fires is a measure of how well the pre-planning, detection and initial attack components of the program are performing in concert. Containing fires to small sizes will minimize the number of communities threatened by fire as well as reduce the area burned. Success depends on a number of factors: analysis of the landscape and its vulnerability to fire starts (e.g., moisture levels, wind speed and direction, fuel type), effective planning to pre-position resources in areas where fire might be expected, ease of access to the location of the fire, topography of fire location, early detection of fires, rapid/effective initial attack and quick reliable support from aircraft.



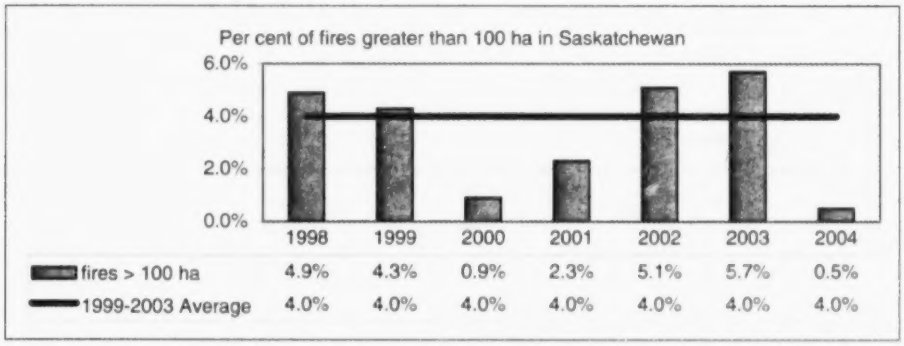
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, NR22 Database]

Per cent of escaped fires in the full response zone that are larger than 100 hectares

Exceptional performance was achieved in 2004. Just one fire or 0.5 per cent in the full response zone (communities and commercial timber) exceeded 100 hectares.

Escaped fires are an unavoidable occurrence in forest fire programs. Uncontrollable circumstances, such as poor detection conditions; multiple fire starts; dry, windy burning conditions; the volatility of the fuel; proximity to resources to allow for successful initial attack; topography; and the time of the year can all combine to create conditions that allow fires to grow beyond 100 hectares. Resources to suppress fires escalate as the fire line grows, so costs also grow quickly.

In 2004-05 the boundaries of response zones were redeveloped to more accurately reflect protection and prioritization of values present within each zone and the wildfire threat and risk they are subjected to. To show a comparative progression, values for per cent of fires contained to 10 hectares or less and per cent of escaped fires larger than 100 hectares in the full response zone have been recalculated for previous years based on the newly developed full response zone.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, NR22 Database]

Objective 2 - Increased Capacity of Individuals, Communities, Industries and Others to Take Responsibility for Reducing Fire Hazards and Wildfires

Wildland fires pose a threat to people, property and natural resources. Residents, communities and businesses need to take precautionary actions to protect their interests. Reducing the risk of wildland fire is a key priority for the provincial fire management program.

Current programming is directed to increase co-operation and training among fire management agencies and foster a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of municipal fire management jurisdictions in the province. During 2004-05 specific initiatives were focused on educating and encouraging individuals, businesses, communities, cottagers and visitors in the north to reduce wildfire risks, and vegetation management in provincial parks and on Crown lands. In the future the province will continue to monitor and adapt program elements to increase the precautionary action taken by residents, communities and businesses in the forest.

Key Results

- Increase the capacity of municipalities to suppress wildfire to encourage greater self-sufficiency for fire management outside the provincial forests.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Rural Municipality self-insurance plan was not accepted by Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) membership. Status quo approach will continue.
  - Fire suppression training courses were offered and delivered to rural municipal representatives across the southern forest fringe.
  - The public now has access to meteorological data and daily fire hazard maps and indexes from the department's website.

- Continue development of provincial park core area evacuation plans and core area fireguards.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Ten evacuation/emergency response plans completed; 15 are in progress.

- Develop larger environmentally sensitive harvest plans that reduce the fire risk for all forest management agreements, particularly in high hazard areas.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Work progressed on drafting these guidelines as a component of the Forest Planning Manual.

- Develop fuel management strategies to reduce landscape fire risk augmented with forest harvesting guidelines and updated priority zones.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Wildfire risk assessments were completed for 104 communities and fuel management work was completed for five northern communities.

- Expand fire prevention education to increase understanding of the need for people and organizations active in forest and rangelands to take responsibility to avoid or mitigate fire risk.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Signs, ads, television campaign and news contacts completed. Continued production of materials will support public education in 2005-06.

Measurement Results

Percentage of human-caused fires in the full response zone

Of the 324 total fire starts in 2004, 49.7 per cent were human-caused fires. The five-year average for human-caused starts is 54 per cent. On a whole number basis human-caused starts dropped from 284 fires in 2003 to 161 in 2004. This is the third consecutive year where human-caused fire starts have decreased.
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, NR22 Database]

The wildland fire prevention education and awareness campaign is designed to reduce the percentage of human-caused wildland fires by encouraging individuals to recognize their responsibility for containing the fires they start and by providing individuals with the information they need to be aware of the risks of starting a wildfire and to have the knowledge required to use fire more safely. Increasing this awareness and reducing the percentage of human-caused fires, which typically occur closer to communities and resort properties where more people are located, helps support this objective. The department has indirect influence over this measure.

For additional information on Saskatchewan Environment's Fire Management Program see: www.se.gov.sk.ca/fire/.

Goal 3 - Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources

Objective 1 - Equitable Allocation of Natural Renewable Resources

Saskatchewan Environment ensures an equitable allocation of land and resources (e.g., fish, wildlife, timber, etc.) to competing interests to satisfy social and economic needs. Currently, established programs monitor health and abundance of the resources, set standards and guidelines for sustainable use, issue land disposition and resource allocations, promote and monitor compliance with conditions, respond to specific risks and threats, develop programs to improve the health and abundance of the resources, and identify new economic opportunities for sustainable use.

Integrated land use planning is one of the key tools the department uses to determine equitable allocation of resources among competing users within a designated geographic area, while maintaining ecosystem health.

During 2004-05 the department made good progress on this objective through activities such as the Great Sand Hills study, and fisheries, wildlife and forestry monitoring. In the future, the department will continue its resource monitoring and adapt allocations as appropriate to maintain sustainable resource use and continued allocation among users according to approved policy.

Key Results

- Respond to the review of the Great Sand Hills Land Use Strategy and implement. [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Response to Great Sand Hills Review Committee Report announced and implementation initiated.
  - ~ Established Scientific Advisory Committee to plan study.
  - ~ Great Sand Hills Protected Area regulated under *The Ecological Reserves Act.*

- Undertake productivity surveys on Saskatchewan Environment's fisheries monitoring lakes (benchmark legacy lakes) to determine if current levels of harvest are appropriate and if lakes can sustain increased allocations. [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ four lake surveys completed and all limnology samples processed.

- Undertake licensing and forest management planning for a minimum of two large timber supply areas. [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ MeeToos Forest Products Ltd. Timber Supply Licence signed February 4, 2005.

- Undertake licensing and forest planning for approximately 100 small forest operators. [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ A total of 196 Forest Products Permits were issued to small forest operators.

Measurement Results

Number of hectares of Crown land under Integrated Land Use Plans (ILUP)

The addition of 205,000 hectares in the Great Sand Hills brought the total area to just under 7.3 million hectares of Crown land managed within approved Integrated Land Use Plans. There were 7,062,700 hectares of Crown land under ILUP in 2003-04.

Integrated land use planning is an ecosystem-based tool that links the environment, the community and the economy in ways that help ensure the sustainability of resources. The process brings together a large variety of interests in order to ensure that a fair opportunity exists for the sustainable use and enjoyment of the natural resources. The unification of the many varied interests through the ILUP process requires time, commitment, a high level of participation and money. Influences that adversely affect any of these four key components will result in at least a degree of loss of control or influence over the measure.

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, Resource Stewardship Branch]

Objective 2 - Accessible Recreation and Educational Opportunities on Provincial Park and Crown Resource Lands

Crown lands and provincial parks are public assets administered by Saskatchewan Environment for public use. This objective ensures fair access by the public to parks and Crown lands for recreation and nature education opportunities. During 2004-05 the province: continued established park programs to maintain park landscapes and buildings to promote a high-quality visitor experience within a natural setting, set standards and policies for sustainable use and enjoyment of parks, monitored and enforced policies essential to a safe and enjoyable park experience, promoted tourism and business development opportunities within parks and in nearby communities and managed overlapping demands from competing park users. In the future, the province will consult with stakeholders on how to improve park programming to rationalize park expenditures and maintain a quality experience for visitors.

Key Results

- Implement a new park business plan including greater self-sufficiency of the parks system by maximizing revenue, rationalizing park expenditures, and differentiation of park fees and season lengths.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Conducted survey on provincial park attractions and impediments and completed economic impact assessment.
  - Drafted a strategy to consult with the public on park management.
  - Implemented a number of changes in park fees. However, differentiation of park fees and season lengths did not proceed.

- Implement a new cottage development program. Issue a call for subdivision proposals in Meadow Lake Provincial Park to create up to 250 new cottage lots. [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Consultations continued and preliminary environmental and cultural assessments completed.

- Work with the City of Prince Albert to establish an urban riverfront park. [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Prince Albert Urban Park, "Pêhonân Parkway", became the fifth Saskatchewan urban park at a formal signing March 2, 2005.

- Continue maintenance and operation of provincial park facilities and services. [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - All facilities, services, programs and customer service were operated and maintained from the Victoria Day Weekend through Labour Day.

Measurement Results

Number of provincial park visitors

There were 2,124,333 visits recorded at provincial parks in 2004 from the May long weekend to Labour day. The 2004 visits were the third lowest since 1992. Factors contributing to decreased use were a cool wet summer, change in the formula to calculate camping visits and related fee adjustments.

Number of visits to provincial parklands is a measure of park access and popularity. Tracking this number helps Saskatchewan Environment evaluate the success of its park policies and related programs.
Except for the weather conditions influencing park visits, Saskatchewan Environment has indirect influence on the access to provincial parks through marketing, park fees, schedules and recreation opportunities provided.

[Source: Saskatchewan Environment Summer Visitation and Outdoor Recreation Statistical Report]

Per cent of survey respondents indicating satisfaction with their park visit

Sixty-nine per cent of the respondents who indicated that they had visited a provincial park in 2004 were satisfied or very satisfied with their experience. The level of satisfaction is down eight per cent from 77 per cent in a similar survey carried out after the 2003 summer park season. The cool, wet weather and new fees introduced in 2004 may have been contributing factors to a decrease in satisfaction. These findings differed from a July 2004 telephone poll when 90 per cent of respondents rated their overall experience in a provincial park as good or very good.
[Source: Saskatchewan Omnibus Poll]

Saskatchewan Environment provides access to natural and cultural areas and recreational facilities and services in our provincial parks. Park visitor level of satisfaction assesses, from the visitors' perspective, the results of these activities.

Saskatchewan Environment's park-related programs and facilities directly influence visitor satisfaction.

Objective 3 - Increased Economic Benefits Based on Sustainable Use of Natural Renewable Resources

Sustainable use of natural resources contributes to the provincial economy. Renewable resources (forestry, wildlife, fisheries, etc.) provide employment to thousands of Saskatchewan citizens and contribute more than a billion dollars a year to our provincial economy. Forestry initiatives in northern Saskatchewan create thousands of jobs and expand business opportunities. Ecotourism has become increasingly popular in the last decade, and the value of northern outfitting operations has grown significantly. Provincial parks generate over $129 million of economic activity with over 1,000 full time equivalent jobs created and a $35 million impact on the Gross Domestic Product.

Currently, established programs seek to identify, promote and develop opportunities for additional sustainable use of natural resources with the involvement and support of affected communities, the private sector, Aboriginal groups and other users of the landscape. Activities supporting this process include identifying the size and accessibility of resources and assessing the potential for sustainable use.

During 2004-05 the province made good progress on several sustainable development initiatives, including 26 forestry Term Supply Licences for small forest operators, several new tourism promotional partnerships, and a new operator for Blackstrap Ski Hill.

In the future, Saskatchewan Environment will continue development of the forest industry, as well as nature-based tourism.

Key Results

- Complete legal and policy work to resolve the softwood lumber issue for Saskatchewan in co-operation with the federal government.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Limited progress due to litigation delays.

- Work with Saskatchewan Tourism to expand ecotourism.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Positive public reaction was received by promoting centennial year theme in cooperation with Saskatchewan Tourism.

- Implement approved actions from the Northern Outfitting Review Committee (2002).
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Majority of approved actions implemented and status report completed.

- Develop Term Supply Licences for small forest companies to allow for development of value-added businesses. [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - A total of 11 volume based Term Supply Licences and one area-based Term Supply Licence issued.

- Develop licensing, allocation and forest management agreement amendments to attract one major softwood user to the province.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Creighton area forestry development feasibility study completed.

Measurement Results

Dollar value of primary forest products shipped

Data not available. $884,000,000 in 2001, which is most recent year data is available.

Forestry is an important economic activity in the province, which must be managed in a sustainable manner. Economic impact of forestry in the province is a measure of its contribution to the provincial economy.

The dollar value of forest production depends on market and trade conditions. Saskatchewan Environment has no influence over these conditions. Saskatchewan Environment has direct influence on development of Term Supply Licences and Forest Management Agreements that enable industry expansion in favourable market conditions.

Number of hectares of Crown lands within the provincial forest having a suite of sustainable management tools in place

Seven million hectares remain the baseline. No additional hectares were added this year. [Source: Saskatchewan Environment internal data]

Sustainability of the forest industry is dependent on a wide variety of factors. The number of hectares of Crown land within the Commercial Forest that have in place a comprehensive suite of management programs, including adequate forest inventory, appropriate environmental assessments, Forest Management Agreements and land use plans is a new measure, or indicator, of sustainable use of Saskatchewan's provincial forest resources. The department has direct influence over this measure.

Dollar value of commercial fishing and aquaculture production

The value of commercial fishing in 2003-04 was over $11 million. This value considers all commercial fish product sales, licence sales, brine shrimp fishery and the overall value of the aquaculture industry in Saskatchewan.

This year's value cannot be compared directly to the reported $6,750,815 for 2002-03, because it combines values from additional sources of the fish marketing industry that were reported separately in previous years.

Note: The data has a lag time of more than one year.
[Source: Saskatchewan Environment and the Fresh Water Fish Marketing Corporation]

Revenue to commercial fishers and value of aquaculture production contribute to the economy of the province.

Saskatchewan Environment has some influence over this measure for commercial fishing through designation and assigning catch quotas for commercial fishing sites, and for aquaculture through evaluation and approval of proposals from the industry.

Factors, such as market conditions, weather, forest fires and job changes by fishers affect the measurement results.

Measurement Results

Dollar value of economic activity generated from sport fishing

The latest data available for the dollar value of economic activity generated from sport fishing in Saskatchewan was for the 1999-2000 fiscal year at $118 million. Data is collected on a five-year cycle. Field results will be available in 2005 with the completion of the National Recreation Fishing survey.
[Source: 2000 Survey of Recreational Fishing in Canada, Economic and Commercial Analysis Report No.165, Fisheries and Oceans Canada]

Revenue from sport fishing contributes to the economy of the province. Saskatchewan Environment has some influence over sport fishing through fishing regulations. Factors like the weather, licence fees and fishing limits affect sport fishing in the province. The data source for this measure has a lag-time of five years. Therefore, the department is unable to report progress on an annual basis.

Goal 4 – Shared Environmental Stewardship

Objective 1 – Comprehensive and Integrated Environmental Strategies

This objective reflects a strategic shift in the way the department intends to deliver its mandate, building on traditional program approaches, such as command and control regulation to include a more comprehensive, flexible set of regulatory and non-regulatory compliance tools and incentives, as well as an approach based on shared responsibility with the regulated community, non-government organizations, the public and the scientific/technical community. This strategic shift is reflected in emerging best practices in environmental management in jurisdictions throughout the industrialized world.

Sustainable development requires the integration of social, economic and environmental considerations in decision-making. Inclusive processes ensure that all sectors are involved in major decisions and that they are provided with information to make informed contributions. A sense of responsibility for environmental stewardship ensures that decisions on environmental issues are well informed by a wide range of community, economic, environmental and individual concerns.

During 2004-05 the province undertook informal consultations with 75 stakeholder groups to gather input on development of a provincial Green Strategy. Saskatchewan Environment also made good progress toward building on its approach to compliance through a review of current practises and issues. Staff also worked with the mining industry to adopt new approaches for mineral exploration that are similar to those in the management of the province's oil and gas resources.

In the future Saskatchewan Environment will continue to build on its efforts to make this strategic shift toward greater shared responsibility. Some of the key features expected will be completion of a government-wide Green Strategy to guide overall government in environmental management, completion of a compliance plan that will prioritize enforcement activities based on risk assessment and facilitate greater use of education, incentives and other non-regulatory approaches to compliance.

Key Results

- Lead development of a government-wide Green Policy Framework and co-ordinate with other departments and Crown corporations.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Informal consultation with stakeholders and other departments completed. Work continues to draft a Framework for public consultation.

- Develop proposals for legislative consolidation and reform, broadening compliance approaches and streamlining approval and permitting processes.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Carried out preliminary work on development of the Environmental Management Model.

Measurement Results

Under development

Objective 2 - First Nations and Métis Rights and Interests are Met Through Co-operative Means

First Nations and Métis people have Treaty and Aboriginal rights and interests in the renewable natural resources administered by Saskatchewan Environment. Saskatchewan Environment is committed to accommodating these rights and interests, as well as to ensuring conflicts with other societal needs are resolved in a co-operative manner.

Saskatchewan Environment is responsible for helping to fulfill the terms of the Saskatchewan Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Framework Agreement as it relates to Crown resource land. There are currently 53 active selection files involving Crown resource land

administered by Saskatchewan Environment in the TLE review process, 12 of which have land purchased. In addition, 46 selections have received reserve status to date, encompassing over 173,565 hectares of Crown resource land.

Saskatchewan Environment programs seek to engage Aboriginal groups, government departments, the federal government and other institutions in working relationships that address one or more of the following goals: ensuring recognition and respect for Treaty and Aboriginal rights; conservation of species and habitats; involvement of Aboriginal communities in economic benefits derived from renewable resources; and building the capacity of First Nation and Métis communities and organizations to effectively co-operate in environment and resource management program and policy development. Programs within the department are also designed to create conditions through Aboriginal employment and cultural awareness that enable Saskatchewan Environment to effectively respond to Aboriginal interests and rights.

Key Results

- Establish policy and enforcement guidelines to accommodate Métis subsistence rights in consultation with the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan (MNS) and other provincial departments as a response to Supreme Court Decision in Powley and Blais.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Prepared and produced "A Guide to Métis Hunting and Fishing Rights in Saskatchewan" and distributed to Métis hunters and communities.

- Continue to work co-operatively with 29 TLE First Nations to help them acquire the land they are entitled to purchase pursuant to the Framework Agreement of 1992.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Conducted reviews and responded to 126 TLE selection requests involving 72,474.7 hectares.
  - ~ Finalized requirements for English River Cree Nation on five TLE areas involving 4,262 hectares, Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation on four TLE areas involving 3,699 hectares and Pelican Lake First Nation on four TLE areas involving 3,108 hectares.

- Develop an agreement with the northern Métis communities and MNS for community-based management of subsistence resource harvests.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Progress on this initiative stalled due to fragile relations with MNS. Action will be carried over into 2005-06.

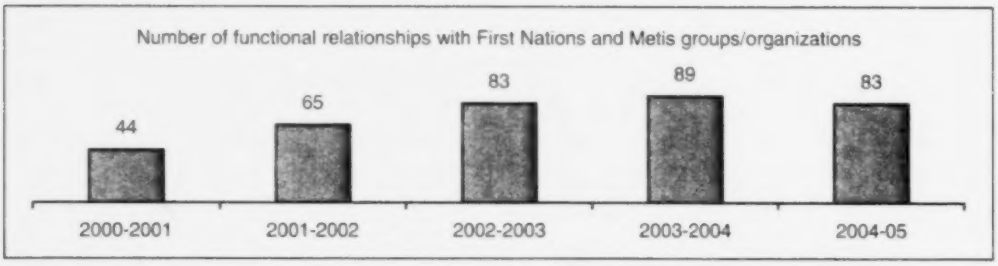
Measurement Results

Number of Co-operative Relationships with First Nations and Métis groups

The number of functional cooperative relationships has been maintained at the target of 83. Some agreements have reached maturity and although the formal agreements have ended the functional relationships with First Nation and Métis groups are maintained while efforts to negotiate new agreements continue.

Functional co-operative relationships with First Nations and Métis groups can be formal (written) or informal (oral) agreements and arrangements can include consultation/ communication, capacity building, resource management decision-making, conservation projects, interpretive programs, community justice, economic development initiatives in the resource management sector, land use planning, etc. All relationships provide a foundation on which the department and the Aboriginal group or community can meet, discuss and continue working together.

Saskatchewan Environment and Aboriginal organizations are collaborating to create arrangements that result in benefits to the ecosystem, sustainable resource-based economic developments and improved consultation and Aboriginal involvement in decision-making.



[Source: Saskatchewan Environment, Aboriginal Affairs Unit, collects data on the number of functional cooperative relationships with First Nations and Métis groups]

A functional co-operative relationship with a First Nation organization, whether formal or informal, involves regular face-to-face meetings to address issues at hand or to develop mutually beneficial natural resource management policies.

Objective 3 - Strengthened and Comprehensive Compliance Strategies

Compliance efforts are used as an instrument for achieving all of Saskatchewan Environment's strategic goals and objectives. The compliance function is the effort and activity that directly encourages the community at large to behave and perform in accordance with requirements established by law. The department's compliance model seeks to encourage voluntary compliance through information and education. When voluntary compliance appears to fail, efforts shift to prevention through targeted physical inspections and direct interaction. When education and prevention efforts fail to produce compliance, efforts shift to investigation and enforcement.

During 2004-05, Saskatchewan Environment began work on a strategic shift in its compliance programming. Saskatchewan Environment's scan and risk assessment suggest that the environmental problems of the future cannot be managed efficiently or effectively using traditional program approaches, such as command and control regulations. A new, more focused and risk-based management approach will be used to prioritize compliance and enforcement activities. New ways to enhance compliance through partnerships, education, communications and creative prevention programs will also be examined. Efforts will also be made to more carefully match compliance tools to type of risk.

Key Results

- Establish a specialized enforcement unit to focus field compliance activities in support of department regulatory requirements consistent with an annual compliance plan. [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ Specialized enforcement unit was established and began operating as planned.

- Develop a risk-based annual compliance plan including, education and voluntary compliance strategies, and prioritizing areas for active monitoring and enforcement. [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - ~ A draft risk assessment was completed, a revised compliance model completed and current compliance activities reviewed. This information will form the foundation for future compliance programming.

- Conduct a departmental review of compliance to simplify and modernize our approach to the use of various compliance measures. [2004-05 Performance Plan]

- Existing compliance activities were reviewed and an assessment of compliance programming initiated.

Measurement Results

Under development

Objective 4 - Effective and Efficient Environmental Approval and Regulatory Processes

One of Saskatchewan Environment's key roles is to provide the environmental approval and regulatory processes that ensure the environment is protected for future generations. Protection of the natural resources, lands and human health/safety are provided through a diverse array of instruments. There are numerous formal acts and regulations administered by the department as well as less formal tools, such as issuing permits, establishing standards and guidelines, industry self-regulation, etc.

The Environmental Assessment Act is intended to foster economic opportunities that exhibit environmental integrity. Proponents prepare environmental impact statements early in the planning and design phase of projects to document the broader impacts of the development proposal on the social, economic and biophysical aspects of the proposal. In recent years, much work has been done in conjunction with the oil and gas industry to streamline the approval process, and facilitate understanding and resolution of environmental concerns early in the project planning stage. In 2004-05 progress continued to be made through work to apply some of these same principles to the mining industry and the transportation sector.

In the future, Saskatchewan Environment intends to work in conjunction with other sectors to further streamline the approval process, standardize environmental requirements and examine more efficient permitting requirements.

Key Results

- Continue the development of hard rock exploration screening guidelines through the Saskatchewan Mining Industry/Government Environment Committee (SMIGEC).
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Guidelines were developed and final approval is pending.

- Initiate a process to develop transportation sector environmental screening guidelines for highways projects under the environmental assessment process.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Transportation and Environment Committee sub-committees have initiated work on addressing classification of stream crossings, wetland habitat compensation agreements regarding road construction, and improved education regarding environmental issues.

- Finalize and implement the policy for institutional controls of decommissioned mine sites.
  [2004-05 Performance Plan]
  - Interdepartmental committee established to address issues identified by preliminary review. Development of policy continues.

Measurement Results

Under development

Other Key Accomplishments

Regulation and Enforcement

In 2004-05 the following actions occurred under:

- *The Wildlife Act*:
  303 charges, 240 warnings
- *The Fisheries Act (Saskatchewan), 1994*:
  390 charges, 450 warnings
- *The Prairie and Forest Fire Act*:
  2 charges, 34 warnings

- *The Parks Act*:
  143 charges, 242 warnings, 162 evictions
- *Migratory Birds Convention Act*:
  10 charges, 9 warnings
- *The Outfitter and Guide Regulations*:
  5 charges, 14 warnings
- *The Forest Resources Management Act*:
  10 charges, 70 warnings
- 34 investigations resolved by alternative measures.

Communications

Saskatchewan Environment has four main communication goals. The goals and some examples of actions taken are:

- Encourage sound environmental decisions that leave people satisfied with the decision-making process and maintain good relationships. For example:
  - The department seeks input and participation from stakeholders, Aboriginal people and the public in decisions on environmental management policies and programs through surveys, workshops, advisory groups and meetings.
  - Public consultation on the Great Sand Hills Land Use Plan Review was completed and the Review Committee's report and recommendations were received and accepted by government.
  - The department produced 60 publications, including guides (Hunting and Trapping, Anglers', Provincial Parks), information on water treatment for all the province's water treatment plant operators, and a range of other targeted publications.
  - The biennial *State of the Environment Report*, which focuses on the relationship between human activities and the condition of the environment, was produced for tabling in the Legislature on April 1, 2005.
  - 48 feature articles on environmental and resource stewardship were produced for the media.
  - 59 news releases were issued on department programs and initiatives.
- The public and stakeholders are informed of risks arising from nature and actions they can take to protect themselves.
  - The department's wildfire public education program, budgeted at $700,000 was reduced to $576,000 as advertising campaigns were curtailed due to the unusually wet fire season. The number of human-caused fire starts was reduced from 284 fires in 2003 to 161 fires in 2004, which was just fewer than 50 per cent of all fires.
  - Daily reports were provided on wildfire prevention and safety.
  - Detailed information was provided to hunters on the safe handling of deer and elk potentially exposed to chronic wasting disease.
  - Information on the West Nile virus and mosquito bite prevention was distributed in provincial parks and placed on the Saskatchewan Environment website.
  - Public open houses were held in Prince Albert regarding creosote contamination found in a residential area near SIAST Woodland Campus.
- Report to the public on department direction/issues/actions and performance.
  - Saskatchewan Environment prepared and distributed its Performance Plan to stakeholders and the public.
  - Improvements to the Annual Report were made in line with the new requirements of the Government's Accountability Project.
  - The department's website had over 18 million hits (over 700,000 visits) in 2004-05.
- Internal communications that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the organization.
  - The department continued to refine its intranet to ensure staff have easy access to timely, relevant information on department programs.
  - A new warehouse inventory ordering system to allow staff to review, order and track department publications on-line was developed and implemented.

Finance and Administration

Saskatchewan Environment undertook several actions to improve financial accountability across the organization during 2004-05. These included:

- Consolidation of financial processing from 16 to four sites to improve consistency of application of financial policies
- Strengthening of the delegated signing authority
- Redirection positions in the department to strengthen financial management analytical capacity, and to ensure each financial supervisor has a manageable span of control

Information Management

Information Management Branch participated in the Information Technology Services Transformation initiative led by Information Technology Office (ITO) and completed the due diligence process. Review of the department's due diligence report is pending Information Management Governance Council analysis. The branch also provided access to environmental stewardship information over the Internet allowing more proactive interaction with other government agencies, industry and the public. This addresses a fundamental strategic shift in the department's approach to providing proactive rather than reactive service.

Human Resources

Saskatchewan Environment continued the development and implementation of its Respectful Workplace Strategy. The department implemented a toll free number for employees experiencing harassment, developed an Action Plan with the Women's Network, developed Phase Two of the Respectful Workplace Strategy and conducted 17 employee workshops.

The Human Resources Branch provided support and assistance through a major restructuring of the department and significant layoffs.

Summary of Saskatchewan Environment's 2005-06 Performance Plan

The 2005-06 Performance Plan builds on the 2004-05 Performance Plan, which was published in July 2004. The goals and objectives of the plan are to be realized over the long-term. Key actions are to be implemented during the current fiscal year to contribute to the longer-term goals and objectives.

2005-06 Goals

Similar to 2004-05, Saskatchewan Environment has four main goals and 13 objectives.

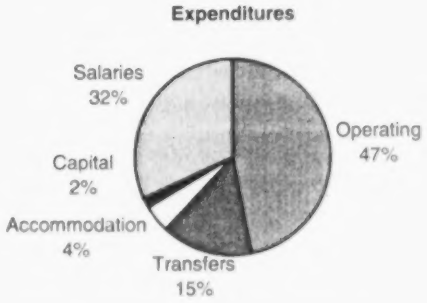
Goal 1: Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems
Objective 1: Reduced Impacts to Surface and Groundwater Quality
Objective 2: Reduced Risks to the Health of the People and the Environment from Air Quality
Objective 3: Reduced Risks to People and the Environment from Contaminated Land
Objective 4: Healthy Ecosystems that Support Native Biological Diversity are Stable and Capable of Self-Repair
Goal 2: People, Resources and Property Values at Risk from Wildfires are Protected
Objective 1: Fire Suppression Targeted to Prioritized Values at Risk
Objective 2: Increased Capacity of Individuals, Communities, Industries and Others to Take Responsibility for Reducing Fire Hazards and Wildfires
Goal 3: Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources
Objective 1: Equitable Allocation of Natural Renewable Resources
Objective 2: Accessible Recreation and Educational Opportunities on Provincial Park and Crown Resource Lands
Objective 3: Increased Economic Benefits Based on Sustainable Use of Natural Renewable Resources
Goal 4: Shared Environmental Stewardship
Objective 1: Comprehensive and Integrated Environmental Strategies
Objective 2: First Nations and Métis Rights and Interests are Met Through Cooperative Means
Objective 3: Strengthened and Comprehensive Compliance Strategies
Objective 4: Effective and Efficient Environmental Approval and Regulatory Processes

2004-05 Financial Results

Expenditures

The 2004-05-department budget was $162.3 million. Taking into account the projected capital expenditures of $2,960K and the associated amortization expense of $2,251K, Saskatchewan Environment's total approved expense for 2004-05 was $161.6 million.

Total 2004-05 expenditures were $133.1 million, a variance of $28.5 million from the revised estimates. The significant variances are explained in the expenditure table below.



Summary of Expenditures

The following table outlines information on actual and budgeted expenditures by subvote and subprogram. Variance explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

Subvote	2004-05 Estimates (000's)	Actual Expenditure (000's)	Variance Over/(Under) (000's)	
ER01 Administration	6,559	8,847	2,288	1
ER02 Accommodation and Central Services	7,116	6,621	(495)	2
ER08 Operations				
Field Operations	16,101	14,105	(1,996)	
Operational Support Services	6,133	3,193	(2,940)	
Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund - Net Financing Requirement (Statutory)	0	(347)	(347)	
Subvote Total	22,234	16,951	(5,283)	3
ER09 Forest Ecosystems				
Forest Programs	7,571	9,348	1,777	
Reforestation	3,592	3,174	(418)	
Insect and Disease Control	2,106	1,821	(285)	
Subvote Total	13,269	14,343	1,074	4
ER10 Fire Management and Forest Protection				
Forest Fire Operations	63,382	30,242	(33,140)	
Recoverable Fire Suppression Operations	1,400	2,035	635	
Fire Capital Projects	0	(574)	(574)	
Subvote Total	64,782	31,703	(33,079)	5
ER11 Environmental Protection				
Environmental Protection	1,796	4,585	2,789	
Support for Environmental Programs	80	77	(3)	
Beverage Container Collection and Recycling System	10,605	10,605	0	
Subvote Total	12,481	15,267	2,786	6

Subvote	2004-05 Estimates (000's)	Actual Expenditure (000's)	Variance Over/(Under) (000's)
ER16 Water Management and Protection			
Drinking Water Quality Section	2,525	2,675	150
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Operations	395	395	0
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Water Control	4,012	4,012	0
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Water Quality	1,711	1,711	0
Subvote Total	8,643	8,793	150 [7]
ER15 Resource Stewardship	6,516	7,284	768 [8]
ER07 Fish and Wildlife Development Fund			
Fish Development	1,847	1,858	11
Wildlife Development	1,855	1,929	74
Subvote Total	3,702	3,787	85
ER04 Parks			
Park Programs	2,724	2,427	(297)
Regional Parks	75	75	0
Facilities Capital	1,584	1,447	(137)
Meewasin Valley Authority (Statutory)	740	740	0
Meewasin Valley Authority Supplementary	74	74	0
Wakamow Valley Authority (Statutory)	127	127	0
Wakamow Valley Authority Supplementary	12	12	0
Wascana Centre Authority (Statutory)	782	782	0
Wascana Centre Authority Supplementary	78	78	0
Wascana Centre Authority Maintenance	1,840	2,011	171
Prince Albert Riverfront Park	66	66	0
Swift Current Chinook Parkway	86	86	0
Commercial Revolving Fund Subsidy	4,716	4,950	234
CRF-Net Expense (Recovery) (Statutory)	0	(26)	(26)
Subvote Total	12,904	12,849	(55)
ER14 Planning and Risk Analysis			
Planning and Evaluation	3,238	3,919	681
Environmental Assessment	936	745	(191)
Subvote total	**4,174**	**4,664**	**490** [9]
Sub Total	**162,380**	**131,109**	**31,271**
Capital Assets Acquisitions	(2,960)	0	(2,960)
Capital Asset Amortization	2,251	2,061	(190)
Statutory Adjustment			
	161,671	**133,170**	**(28,501)**

Explanation of Variances:

[1] $2,288K over expenditure - $1,668K due to reallocation of staff from SV45 to SV01, because of department re-organization. Also, $917K transferred from SV45 to SV01for information technology funding; and $297K under expenditure.

[2] $495K under expenditure - savings due to 3211 renovation expenses that were not incurred 2004-05 and reduced mail costs.

[3] $5,283K under expenditure - $4,936K transferred to SV01 for staff and operating dollars because of the department's re-organization; and $279K expenses due to abolished positions

[4] $1,074K over-expenditure - due to$285K settlement of outstanding litigation and $42K notice period expenses related to abolished position; $410K for base maps agreement; and $254K reallocation for department re-organization

[5] $33,079K under expenditure due to low fire activity.

[6] $2,786K over expenditure due to $189K completion of the environmental cleanup project for Woodland Campus that was carried over from the Centenary Fund in 2003-04; $1,829K reallocation due to re-organization; $700K for grant payment to Association of Regional Waste Management Authorities of Saskatchewan.
[7] $150K over-expenditure due to department re-organization.
[8] $768K over-expenditure - $269K notice period related to abolished positions; $288K due to Chronic Wasting Disease testing; $190K reallocation for dept. re-organization.
[9] $490K over expenditure - $600K for Great Sand Hills study; $110K reallocation for department re-organization.

Capital Assets

Saskatchewan Environment is responsible for a vast array of capital assets such as the fire suppression air fleet and infrastructure, park lands, facilities and infrastructure, and the Crown lands managed by the department. These assets figure strongly in Saskatchewan Environment's capital plan not only because of their financial significance but also because of the essential role they play in program delivery. The replacement value of the fire suppression air fleet and infrastructure is estimated at $183 million while park facilities and infrastructure would cost approximately $160 million to replace.

A major commitment of the province and the department is the 10-year forest fire suppression fleet renewal plan estimated at approximately $183 million. Over the next four years, $42 million of the $183 million will be invested in the fleet renewal strategy for Phase One of the upgrade to the aerial fire suppression fleet and supporting infrastructure. During 2004-05, $5.5 million was directed towards the acquisition of two Turbo Commander bird dogs, one Baron 55 bird dog, retrofit kits for six CL 215 water bombers and a deposit on four CV 580A Tracker aircraft. In 2005-06, $20.25 million will be expended for further aircraft and infrastructure improvements. In addition, the department is in the process of constructing 20 additional fire towers that will result in improved detection and initial attack of wildfires.

In 2004-05, the parks facilities capital program improved, built or restored several of the existing park facilities and infrastructure. Some of the projects included:

- New entry kiosk at Cypress Hills.
- Paving of trails at Saskatchewan Landing.
- Potable water line replacement at Buffalo Pound and line repairs at the Battlefords.
- Sewage Lagoon at Pike Lake.
- New well at the Fish Culture Station.

Saskatchewan Environment continues to identify key issues and gaps that it faces in aligning its capital assets to support the overall strategic direction and desired outcomes. Work continues to take place with respect to developing and finalizing strategies for closing the gaps for some of Saskatchewan Environment's major capital assets. The following displays a draft capital plan by asset class for over the next few years. Only those capital expenditures that meet the new thresholds developed by Finance have been included:

	Fires			Parks		
Capital By Asset Class	**2004-05 ($000)**	**2005-06 ($000s)**	**2006-07 ($000s)**	**2004-05 ($000)**	**2005-06 ($000s)**	**2006-07 ($000s)**
Infrastructure	0	2,000	500	375	645	490
Land, Building and Building Improvements	2,403	240	1,100	250	380	225
Machinery and Equipment	427	-	-	43	250	130
Transportation Equipment	5,500	17,000	17,000	41	-	-

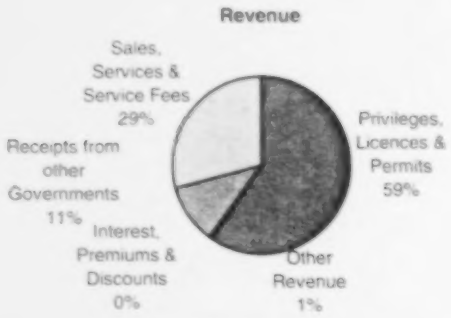
Information on Third Party Funding

Grant Recipient	Purpose of Grant	Amount Paid (000's)
Association of Regional Waste Management	Grant to support past operations	700
Beverly-Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board	Operating grant	15
Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment	Operating grant	32
Canadian Parks Council	Operating grant/agreement	4
Fish and Wildlife Development Fund	Operating grant - 30 per cent of revenues collected by the province on angling and hunting licences issued	3,787
Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada	Operating grant - participation in joint silvicultural and small-scale operations programs	10
Fur Institute of Canada	Funding for trap research and development program, standard development, trapper education and public information programs	11
How the Waste Was Won	Canadian Prairie Chapter conference sponsor	5
Meewasin Valley Authority	Urban park statutory payments *	740
Meewasin Valley Authority	Urban park supplementary payments	74
Northern Saskatchewan Trappers Association	Partnership funding for ongoing fur management	15
Operator Certification Board	Operating grant	21
Prince Albert, City of	Urban park payment (Pêhonân Parkway)	66
Receiver General for Canada – Natural Resources	Contribution toward the federal/provincial agreement for the Canadian Forest Innovation Council	49
Saskatchewan Association of Conservation Officers	Support professional development of conservation officers	6
Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres	Beverage Container Program handling fees	10,627
Saskatchewan Co-operative Fisheries Limited	Operating grant	50
Saskatchewan Environmental Industry and Managers Association	Annual expo and trade show sponsor	5
Saskatchewan Eco-Network Inc.	Stakeholder partnership agreement	15
Saskatchewan Forestry Association	Corporate annual membership grant and forestry support	55
Saskatchewan Regional Parks	Provide assistance for operational requirements and organizational development to support the local regional park boards	75
Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board	Funding for Guard Dog Subsidy Program	5
Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council	Operational grant for sustaining membership	6

Grant Recipient	Purpose of Grant	Amount Paid (000's)
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority	Financial support to Saskatchewan Watershed Authority that has a mandate to manage water supplies and protect source water quality	6,118
Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation	Funding for annual convention	5
Swift Current, City of	Chinook Parkway Urban Park payments	86
University of Regina	Great Sand Hills Study	600
University of Saskatchewan	Support the Canadian Co-operative Wildlife Health Centre	35
Wakamow Valley Authority	Urban park statutory payments	127
Wakamow Valley Authority	Urban park supplementary payments	12
Wascana Centre Authority	Urban park statutory payments	782
Wascana Centre Authority	Urban park supplementary payments	78
Wascana Centre Authority Maintenance	Urban park payments	2,011
Wildlife Habitat Canada (Canadian Wildlife Directors)	Funding to Wildlife Habitat Canada, as the banker for the Provincial/Territorial Wildlife Directors Secretariat	4
Other (individual grants less than $3,000)		15
TOTAL GRANTS 2004-05 - VOTE 026		**26,246**

Revenues

Saskatchewan Environment's forecast revenue for 2004-05 was $45.4 million; actual revenue recorded was $50.3 million. The majority of this revenue comes from environmental handling charges, forestry fees and dues, fishing and hunting license sales, and receipts from other governments for recoverable fire suppression costs.


Revenue
Sales, Services & Service Fees 29%
Privileges, Licences & Permits 59%
Receipts from other Governments 11%
Interest, Premiums & Discounts 0%
Other Revenue 1%

Description of Revenue	2004-05 Budget (000's)	2004-05 Actual (000's)	Variance (000's)
Privileges, Licenses and Permits	21,562	30,279	8,717 [1]
Sales, Services and Service Fees	13,590	14,928	1,338 [2]
Interest, Premiums and Discounts	20	(52)	(72)
Receipts from Other Governments	6,163	5,478	(685) [3]
Other Revenue	4,064	(272)	(4,336) [4]
Total Revenue Items	45,399	50,361	4,962

Explanation of Variances:

[1] Increase due to rate increases in forestry.

[2] Sales Services and Service Fees - increased revenue is due mainly to increased revenue from environmental handling charges from increased beverage container sales.

[3] Receipts from Other Governments - decrease in Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development due to 2004-05 fire activity being lower than anticipated and a decrease in federal-provincial cost share revenue.

[4] Other Revenues - decrease due to reduced revenue in bottle deposits.

Treasury Board Crown Corporations

Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority (SWA) is a Treasury Board Crown. On October 1, 2002, SWA was established to manage and protect water quantity and quality. As part of the government's Long-Term Safe Drinking Water Strategy, the province consolidated the water management components from SaskWater, Saskatchewan Environment and the Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation into the Watershed Authority to focus on water management.

As a result, SWA is responsible for the allocation of ground and surface water inventory and analysis of water sources and the administration and control of all water infrastructure, including operations, planning and maintenance of provincially owned water management infrastructure. It is also SWA's responsibility to manage watershed and aquifer planning, to develop partnerships and projects that help provide healthy watersheds and provide assessment and monitoring practices that ensure the protection and restoration of the province's water sources.

This responsibility is undertaken through the administration of the regulatory provisions of *The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority Act*.

Saskatchewan Watershed Authority's annual report can be found at www.swa.ca.

Special Funds

Fish and Wildlife Development Fund

The Fish and Wildlife Development Fund (FWDF) is a special purpose fund used by the department to support habitat protection and management throughout the province. Revenues are transferred to the fund based on an amount equivalent to 30 per cent of habitat licence certificates and certain hunting, trapping and fishing licence fees collected by the province. Basic expenditures relate to habitat protection through the purchase of habitat and management and enhancement of habitat.

The FWDF supports Goal 3, Objective 1: Equitable Allocation of Natural Renewable Resources as well as Goal 1, Objective 1: Reduced Impacts to Surface and Ground Water Quality through the ongoing funding support provided to SWA from the fund.

The following table outlines summary information on budgeted and audited actuals for 2004-05 relating to the operations of the fund. Variance explanations have been provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

Audited Financial Statements can be found at www.gov.sk.ca/finance under the publications section of their web site.

Fish and Wildlife Development Fund for the period ended March 31, 2005
(based on unaudited figures)

	Budget ($ 000's)	Actual ($ 000's)	Variance ($ 000's)
Revenue	3,920	4,064	144
Expenses			
Fish Enhancement Projects	1,506	1,447	59
Wildlife Habitat Projects	1,889	2,095	(206) [1]
Grant in Lieu of Taxes	300	293	7
Total Expenses	3,695	3,835	(140)
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	**225**	**229**	**4**

Explanation of Variance

[1] Increase in Wildlife Habitat Project Expenditures - the increase in Wildlife Habitat Project expenditures is due to higher than estimated acquisitions of wildlife conservation habitat easements.

Forest Fire Contingency Fund

The Forest Fire Contingency Fund (FFCF) was a special purpose fund created in 2001 to support the government's efforts to finance the suppression of large forest fires (greater than 100 hectares in size).

The entire $40 million contributed to this fund in 2001-02 was spent in the 2001-02 and 2002-03 fire seasons. The 2004-05 department budget allocation contains funding required for escaped fires. The Forest Fire Contingency Fund will be wound up effective May 27, 2005.

Revolving Funds

Commercial Revolving Fund

The Commercial Revolving Fund (CRF) is the financing mechanism for collection and distribution of funds used in the operation of the province's provincial parks, recreation sites and historical parks. The purpose of the CRF is to conduct commercial activities required for the promotion, development and management of provincial parks. The fund receives revenue from commercial activities that take place within the province's parks and campgrounds such as camping, entry gate collection, cottage lot rental, commercial lease facilities, resource use activities and other miscellaneous items. Expenditures from the CRF relate to the operation of the provincial park system and are made to ensure safe public enjoyment of provincial parks and recreation sites.

The CRF operates under the authority of Section 18 of *The Natural Resources Act*. Saskatchewan Environment administers the CRF.

The CRF supports Goal 3: Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources and Objective 2: Accessible Recreation and Educational Opportunities on Provincial Park and Crown Resource Lands. The CRF contains the direct operating revenues and expenditures associated with delivering the provincial park program.

The following table outlines summary information on budgeted and audited actuals for 2004-05 relating to the operation of the fund. Variance explanations have been provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

Audited Financial Statements can be found at www.gov.sk.ca/finance under the publications section of their web site.

Commercial Revolving Fund for the period ended March 31, 2005
(based on unaudited figures)

	Budget ($ 000's)	Actual ($ 000's)	Variance ($ 000's)
Revenue	9,984	9,789	(195)
Expenses			
Salaries	9,430	9,077	353
Operating Expenses	5,270	5,867	597 [1]
Total Expenses	14,700	14,944	(244)
Net Profit/(Loss)	**(4,716)**	**(5,155)**	**(439)**
Subsidy from the GRF	**4,716**	**4,950**	**234**
Net Profit/(Loss) after subsidy	**0**	**(205)**	**(205)**

Explanation of Variances

[1] Increase in Operating Expenses - the increase in operating expenses is mainly due to the change in the threshold dollar value for capital assets. For example, small tools and equipment purchases have been recorded as a capital asset but with the recent threshold change these purchases are now recorded as an ordinary operating expense. As of March 31, 2004, capital asset are no longer contained within the Commercial Revolving Fund and are funded out of the Parks Facilities Capital.

Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund

The Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund (RPDRF) is a funding mechanism used by the department for cost allocation of capital and operating expenditures that apply to a number of different cost centres (Radio Communications, Equipment Rental, Staff Housing and Northern Air Operations) within the department. Resource users are charged a fee based on the cost of providing the goods and services.

The RPDRF contains a number of programs, that support several goals and objectives of the department. The Radio Communications and the Northern Air Operations segments support Goal 1: Reduced Risks to Clean and Healthy Ecosystems, Goal 2: People, Resources and Property Values at Risk from Wildfires are Protected, and Goal 3: Fair Opportunity for Sustainable Use and Enjoyment of Renewable Resources.

The Staff Housing Component supports the first three goals by providing required staff accommodation in remote locations.

The following table outlines summary information on budgeted and audited actuals for 2004-05 relating to the operation of the fund. Variance explanations have been provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

Audited Financial Statements can be found at www.gov.sk.ca/finance under the publications section of their web site.

Resource Protection and Development Revolving Fund for the period ended March 31, 2004
(based on unaudited figures)

	Budget ($ 000's)	Actual ($ 000's)	Variance ($ 000's)
Revenue	2,052	1,900	(152)
Expenses			
Salaries	1,030	995	35
Operating Expenses	1,022	666	356 [1]
Total Expenses	2,052	1,661	391
Net Profit/(Loss)	**0**	**239**	**239**

Explanation of Variances
[1] Decrease in Operating Expenditures - the decrease in operating expenditures is due to low fire activity.

Where to Obtain Additional Information

Saskatchewan Environment welcomes your comments and questions.

We can be contacted by email: inquiry@serm.gov.sk.ca
phone: Rick Bates at (306) 787-0114
or Saskatchewan Environment's Inquiry Centre, Prince Albert at (306) 953-3750
toll free in Saskatchewan 1-800-567-4224
or mail: 3211 Albert Street, REGINA SK S4S 5W6

Visit our web site at www.se.gov.sk.ca

Appendix A - Administered Legislation

The department derives its mandate, responsibilities and authority from a number of Acts and regulations under those Acts.

Acts currently assigned to the Minister of Environment are:

- *The Clean Air Act* protects Saskatchewan's air quality by regulating emissions that originate in the province.
- *The Conservation Easements Act* encourages private landowners, conservation organizations and governments to protect ecologically sensitive lands and natural areas through voluntary agreements.
- *The Ecological Reserves Act* protects unique, natural ecosystems and landscape features through the designation of Crown land as ecological reserves.
- *The Environmental Assessment Act* provides a mechanism for requiring and undertaking impact assessment and evaluation. Ministerial approval is required before a proponent may proceed with a development, and terms and conditions may be imposed on the approval to mitigate impacts.
- *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2002* protects the air, land and water resources of the province through regulating and controlling potentially harmful activities and substances.
- *The Fisheries Act (Saskatchewan), 1994* enables sustainable management of fisheries resources by affirming provincial ownership of fish, creating a provincial licensing system, and regulating allocation of fish resources, fish marketing, aquaculture, sport fishing and commercial fishing.
- *The Forest Resources Management Act* allows the department to implement a framework for sustainable management of Saskatchewan's forest resources.
- *The Grasslands National Park Act* ratifies and validates the Grasslands National Park Agreement and allows the province to transfer land to the federal government for inclusion in the Grasslands National Park.
- *The Litter Control Act* makes littering an offence and provides for the establishment and administration of a deposit refund system for various beverage containers.
- *The Natural Resources Act* (subject to OC 208/96) establishes the province's mandate to manage, protect, conserve and develop renewable resources in a sustainable manner.
- *The Ozone-Depleting Substances Control Act, 1993* protects the upper atmospheric ozone layer by banning the use and manufacture of ozone-depleting substances.
- *The Parks Act, 1997* provides authority for the management, administration and disposition of park land and park land reserves.

- *The Prairie and Forest Fires Act, 1982* provides for the prevention, detection and suppression of prairie and forest fires originating in provincial forests, parks and on unoccupied Crown lands. It also governs compensation for conscripted fire fighters and authorizes establishment and regulation of fire bans and burning permit areas.

- *The Provincial Lands Act* creates authority for the management and transfer of Crown lands.

- *The Regional Parks Act, 1979* allows the Minister to assist local governments and agencies in establishing regional parks and agencies to increase availability of parks to the public.

- *The Sale or Lease of Certain Lands Act* gives Cabinet the ability to place conditions on the transfer or lease of lands listed in a schedule to this Act.

- *The State of the Environment Report Act* provides for public accountability in reporting of environmental conditions and activities through the preparation and release of a State of the Environment Report every two years.

- *The Water Appeal Board Act* establishes the Water Appeal Board and enables the board to hear appeals regarding water, sewage and drainage issues.

- *The Wildlife Act, 1998* provides for the management, conservation and protection of wildlife resources through the issuance and revocation of licences, the prosecution of wildlife offences and the establishment of annual hunting seasons.

- *The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act* provides for the management, conservation and protection of wildlife lands and wildlife by preventing the sale and alteration of certain Crown lands.

Acts currently assigned to the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Watershed Authority are:

- *The Conservation and Development Act*

- *The Ground Water Conservation Act*

- *The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority Act*

- *The Water Power Act*

- *The Watershed Associations Act*

Appendix B - Key Partners and Stakeholders

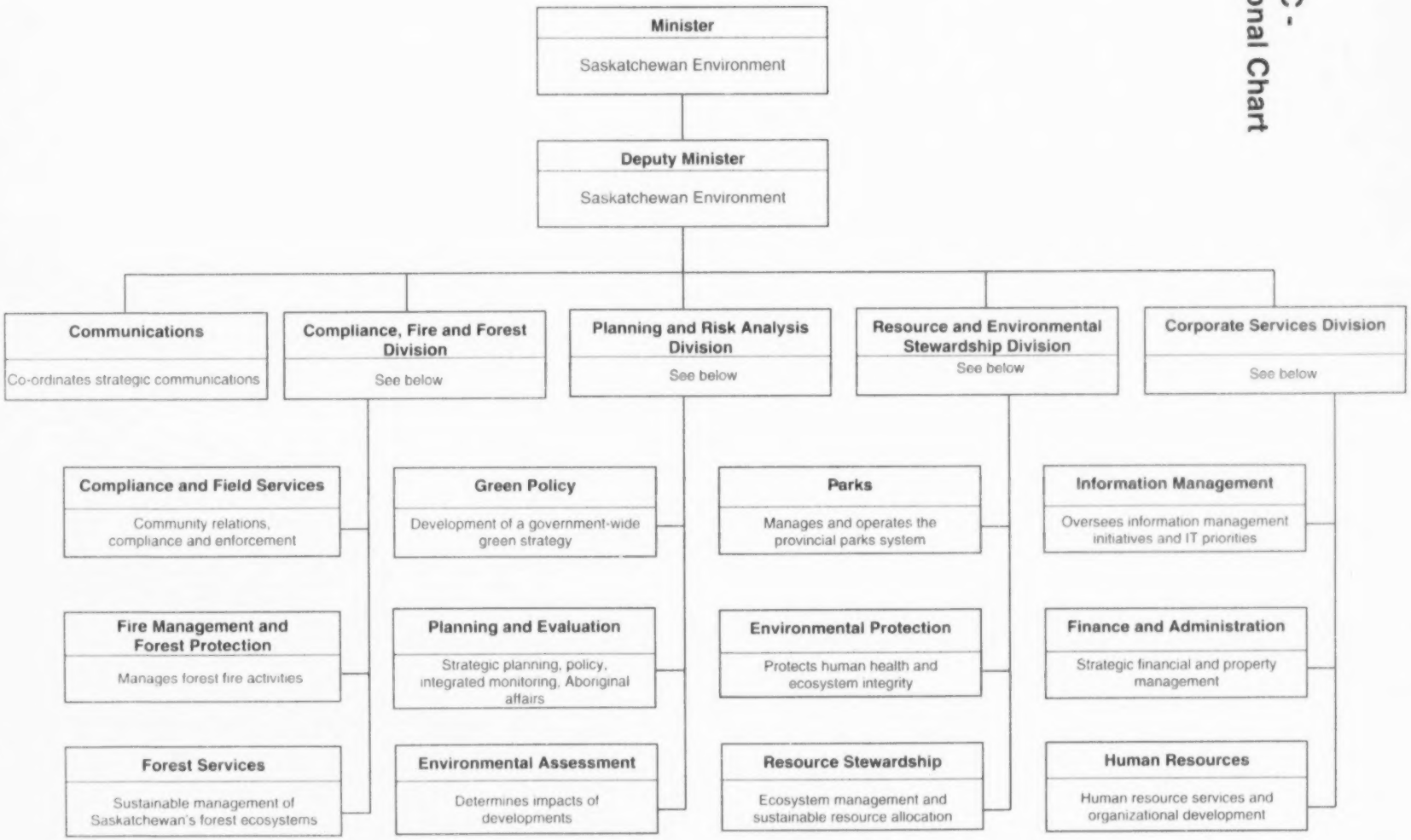
The organizations listed below are considered Saskatchewan Environment's primary partners/stakeholders because they:

- are provincial in scope,
- have a significant impact on the environment or natural resources,
- are involved in major current issues, or maintain a long-term relationship with the department.

- Agency Chiefs Tribal Council
- Association of Saskatchewan Urban Park and Conservation Agencies
- Battlefords Tribal Council
- Cameco Corporation
- Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors (CAGC)
- Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers
- Canadian Bankers Association
- Canadian Forest Service
- Canadian Heritage River System Board
- Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre
- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
- Canadian Petroleum Products Institute
- Canadian Plains Research Center
- Canoe Saskatchewan
- Claude Resources Inc.
- Climate Change Saskatchewan
- Cogema Resources Inc.
- Communities of Tomorrow
- Consumer's Co-operative/New Grade Upgrader
- Council of Saskatchewan Forest Industries
- Crop Life Canada
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- Ducks Unlimited Canada
- Enbridge Inc.
- Environment Canada
- Farm Woodlot Association of Saskatchewan
- Federal/Provincial Park Council
- Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations
- File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council
- First Nations University of Canada
- Green Lake Métis Wood Products Ltd.
- Heritage Canada
- Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting
- Husky Oil
- IMC Kalium Canada Ltd.
- IPSCO Saskatchewan
- Kitsaki Management Limited Partnership
- L & M Wood Products Ltd.
- Meadow Lake Tribal Council
- MeeToos Forest Products Ltd.
- Meewasin Valley Authority
- Métis Nation - Saskatchewan (MNS) and MNS Regions
- Millar Western Industries Ltd.
- Mistik Management Ltd.
- Museums Association of Saskatchewan
- Nature Conservancy of Canada (Saskatchewan Division)
- Nature Saskatchewan
- New North
- NorSask Forest Products Ltd.
- Northwest Communities Wood Products Ltd.
- North West Municipalities Association
- Operator's Certification Board
- Parks Canada
- Partners for the Saskatchewan River Basin
- Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA)
- Prince Albert Grand Council
- Prince Albert Pêhonân Parkway
- Provincial Association of Resort Communities of Saskatchewan (PARCS)
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Saskatchewan Action Foundation for the Environment
- Saskatchewan Archaeological Society
- Saskatchewan Association of Firearm Education (SAFE)
- Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres (SARC)
- Saskatchewan Association of Resource Recovery Corporation (SARRC)
- Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM)
- Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce
- Saskatchewan Cooperative Fisheries Ltd.

- Saskatchewan Dutch Elm Disease Association
- Saskatchewan Eco Network
- Saskatchewan Environmental Industry and Managers Association
- Saskatchewan Environmental Society
- Saskatchewan Forestry Association
- Saskatchewan Forestry Centre
- Saskatchewan Government and General Employees Union (SGEU)
- Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund Management Corporation
- Saskatchewan Independent Forest Industries
- Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST)
- Saskatchewan Mining Association
- Saskatchewan Nature and Ecotourism Association
- Saskatchewan Outfitters Association
- Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association (SPRA)
- Saskatchewan Potash Producers Association
- Saskatchewan Provincial Parks Cabin Owners Association
- Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association (SRPA)
- Saskatchewan Research Council
- Saskatchewan Scrap Tire Corporation (SSTC)
- Saskatchewan Ski Association
- Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association
- Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association
- Saskatchewan Trappers Association
- Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA)
- Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council
- Saskatchewan Water Appeal Board
- Saskatchewan Water and Wastewater Association
- Saskatchewan Watershed Authority
- Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Saskatchewan Wild Rice Council
- Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation
- Saskatoon Tribal Council
- SaskEnergy
- Saskferco Products Inc.
- SaskPower
- SASKTIP Inc.
- SaskWater
- Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada (SEPAC)
- Sterling Pulp Chemicals
- Swift Current Chinook Parkway
- Tolko Industries Ltd./Meadow Lake OSB
- Touchwood Agency Tribal Council
- Tourism Saskatchewan
- Trans Canada Trail Council
- University of Regina
- University of Saskatchewan
- Wakamow Valley Authority
- Wascana Centre Authority
- Weyerhaeuser Canada Ltd., Saskatchewan Division
- World Wildlife Fund
- Yorkton Tribal Council

Appendix C - Organizational Chart



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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

LIST OF PERSONS WHO RECEIVED MONEY FROM THE FISH AND WILDLIFE DEVELOPMENT FUND

For the Year Ended March 31, 2005

2004-05 FISH AND WILDLIFE DEVELOPMENT FUND

Personal Services (Salaries & expenses):		
Arneson, David John	$	54,018
Banks, Gerald		67,456
Beveridge, Edward D.		61,250
Dunn, Christopher L.		56,475
Everett, Murray E.		69,798
Hlasny, Ron E.		62,265
Joerissen, Rochelle M.		54,807
Mitchell, Gregory		50,107
Olson, Conrad H.		61,427
Scalise, Karyn		52,108
Scott, Kenneth A.		59,448
Payments under $50,000		322,990
		972,149
Supplier Payments:		
CIBC Visa Purchase Cards		63,019
Saskatchewan Association for Firearm Education		95,701
Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation		82,777
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority		141,108
SaskPower Corporation		55,509
Transwest Air		75,691
Payments under $50,000		302,406
		816,211
Grants:		
Balfour Moss		631,757
Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities		276,653
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority		878,000
Grants under $50,000		258,767
		2,045,177
TOTAL	$	3,833,537